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KOM ONS PRAAT



deur
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Frikkie@rpo.co.za

Jou vee se brandstof

Brandstof. Dit is myns insiens nogal 'n mooi versamelnaam vir dit wat ons in algemene taal petrol en diesel noem. Dit sluit egter ook ander produkte in wat vir ontbranding aangewend word soos gas, lampolie en selfs hout.

Die teorie agter brandstof is ook redelik maklik en bekend. Hoe meer brandstof, hoe groter is die vuur. Hoe meer brandstof, hoe vinniger ry die voertuig. Hoe meer brandstof, hoe helderder is die lamp se vlam, hoe vinniger word die kos gaar, hoe meer krag word gelewer.

Dink 'n mens egter 'n bietjie dieper oor die woord brandstof, kring jou gedagtes maklik uit na ander goed wat nodig is vir aandrywing. Vee se biologiese brandstof is sekerlik voer vir energie. Vanselfsprekend wil jy verseker dat jou vee voldoende voeding kry. Ons ken die eeue-oue teorie wanneer dit veeproduksie kom: die regte voeding los die meeste van jou kudde se probleme op, van siektes tot vrugbaarheid.

Die probleem is egter dat brandstof, en hier verwys ek na die ontbrandingstipe, niks beteken by gebrek aan suurstof nie. Dit maak nie saak hoe groot die vonk vir aansteek of hoe groot die hoeveelheid brandstof is nie, sonder suurstof gaan daar geen reaksie plaasvind nie. Verder moet die regte tipe brandstof gebruik word; petrol beteken niks in 'n diesellootruig nie, en jy kan met liters lampolie sit sonder dat die gasstoof ooit sal brand. Dis ook belangrik dat brandstof in die regte hoeveelheid toegedien moet word, aangesien die leeftyd van die apparaat waarin jy dit gebruik, al hoe korter word

indien dit in oormaat aangewend word, of nutteloos is indien daar nie genoeg is nie.

Neem jy bogenoemde in ag en trek dit deur na die brandstof wat jou vee nodig het, besef jy vinnig dat hierdie beginsels ook op vee van toepassing is. Al is die bakke vol en die veld geil, het vee meer as net voer nodig en moet ons let op water, gesondheid, parasiete, beskutting, roofdiere en al die ander elemente wat die kudde nodig het om te floreer. Tweedens gaan dit oor die regte voer vir 'n spesifieke behoefte. Hoe moet jou energie/proteïen-balans daar uitsien? Is daar voldoende ruvoer? Voer jy vir onderhoud of produksie? Is dit droë, eenling- of tweeling-ooie se behoeftes waarna omgesien moet word? Laastens gaan dit oor die hoeveelheid voer. Ons moet waak teen te veel, want dit lei tot bankrotskap weens leë bankrekening en oorvet diere. Ons moet waak teen te min, want dit kan lei tot bankrotskap weens onderpresterende diere. Ons moet kyk dat elke dier sy regmatige deel kry om seker te maak sommige kry nie te veel en ander te min nie.

Hier waar ons aan die einde van die winter staan, is ekstra brandstof vir jou vee dikwels ononderhandelbaar. Dit is die droë maande in die somerreëvalstreke, dit lei na die doodmaak-maande indien die reën te laat kom. Dit beteken dat ons moet brandstof gee, en reg gee, om optimale verrigting in ons kuddes te verseker. Dit is beslis nie altyd maklik om tenk vol te maak en te kyk hoe die rande rol nie, maar met die hulp van voedingkundiges kan ons verseker dat die kudde se tenk brandstof so ver moontlik hou.

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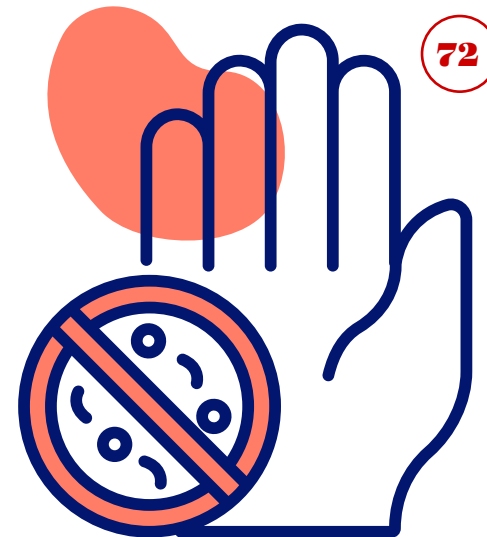
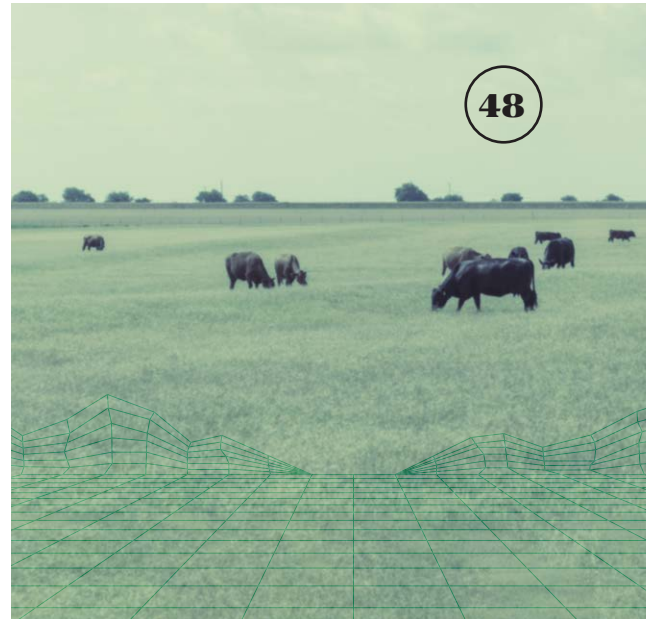


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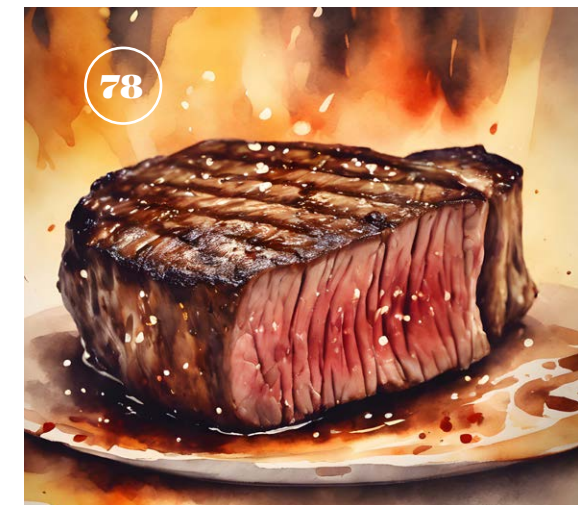
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deur

Fanie van Rooyen

Veranderende wêreld verg nuwe denke

Baie aspekte van veeboerdery is nog dieselfde as honderde jare gelede, soos die behoefte aan goeie weer, goeie veld en weiding, gesonde diere, goeie reproduksie, min predasie en 'n lekker mark-aanvraag. Maar in baie opsigte is dinge in ons hiper-verstrengelde, aanlyn wêreld veel meer ingewikkeld. Net as voorbeeld, ons voorblad is geskep deur AI!

Om die regte brandstof aan jou vee en jou plaas te gee, moet jy ingelig bly oor 'n geweldige klomp eksterne veranderlikes soos wêreldwye markskuiwings, nuwe tegnologieë, genomika, streek-siektetendense, volhoubaarheid en verbruikersvoorkeure. Daarom poog ons met hierdie uitgawe, soos eintlik met elke vorige een, om jou genoegsaam toe te rus om jou vee en jou plaas met 'n vol tenk brandstof te laat.

Ons kyk 'n bietjie na die weg wat Stamboek SA baan wat betref genetiese vordering en rekordhouding wêreldwyd, ons hoor by prof. Frikkie Maré oor die werklike prys-transmissie van rooivleis in die Suid-Afrikaanse mark (en doen weg met mites), ons bekyk die impak van die nuwe regering van nasionale eenheid op die landbou, ons kyk na prof. Phillip Strydom se siening oor verbruikervoorkeure vir die "perfekte" biefstuk (en of dit al bestaan), na die nuutste oor die bekamping van die biosekuriteit-krisis in die Oos-Kaap rondom bek-en-klouseer, top wenke oor ekstensiewe boerdery, die beste voeding vir toekomstige kalwers, nuwe navorsing oor Stenkdalkoors, en al die relevante bedryfsnuus.

Ek hoop met hierdie uitgawe, soos met al die voriges, sal jy meer toegerus voel om te kan boer soos jy moet boer: met 'n vol tenk brandstof, in 'n geoliede masjien. Voorwaarts!

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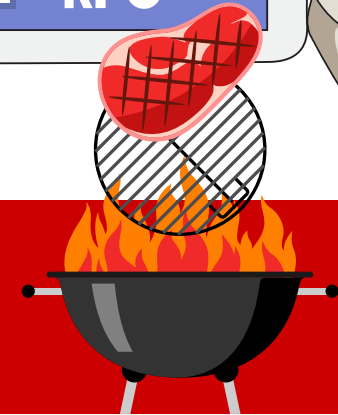
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INBOX



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Soos dit hoort, braai die Nasionale RPO se bestuur graag saam om die land se topgehalte rooivleis behóórlík te vier. Die jongste geleentheid was einde Junie. As jy weer lekker braai, stuur gerus vir ons 'n paar foto's en tag ons op sosiale media!



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MARKET TRENDS FOR BEEF AND LAMB

by
Pieter Cornelius



BEEF

In June 2024, the average price of weaners (190 kg to 240 kg) was 1,3% lower than the previous month and 1,7% lower than the predicted price for June. Based on historic prices over the past 20 years, there is an 80% chance that the average weaner price will be higher in July 2024 compared to the previous month. However, there is a 75% chance that it will be higher in August 2024 than in July 2024. Weaner prices are facing pressure due to poor performance in the beef marketing chain. Year-on-year, the average producer price of weaners increased by 2%.

The average producer price of Class A2/A3 beef in June 2024, year-on-year, increased by 11,6%, while Class B2/B3 declined by 0,3% and Class C2/C3 beef by 4%.

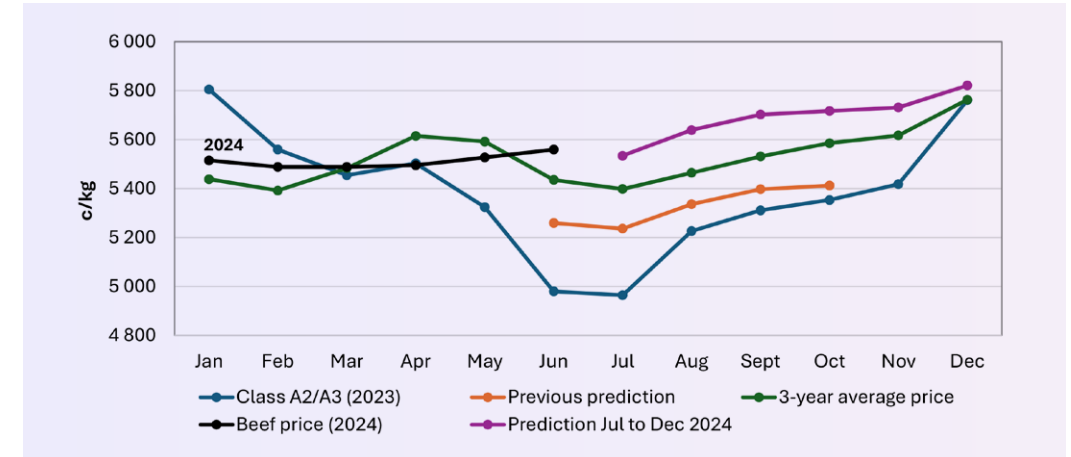
In June 2024, the average price of Class A2/A3 beef was 0,6% higher than

the previous month and 5,7% higher than the predicted price for June. The higher price can mainly be attributed to lower supply and higher demand. The average price of Class C2/C3 was, however, 0,9% lower than May 2024, indicating the pressure on consumers due to the poor performance of the South African economy. Based on historic prices over the past 20 years, there is a 75% probability that the price will be higher in August 2024 than in July 2024.

LONG-TERM TRENDS IN HIDE PRICES

In April 2024, the average price of feedlot hides was R3,16/kg, which is 3,0% higher than the previous month and 0,2% higher year-on-year. South Africa is mainly an exporter of hides. World prices are under severe pressure due to a sharp decline in demand for leather, which is being caused by competitive non-leather products.

Figure 1 Seasonal trend of Class A2/A3 beef and a price prediction over the next six months



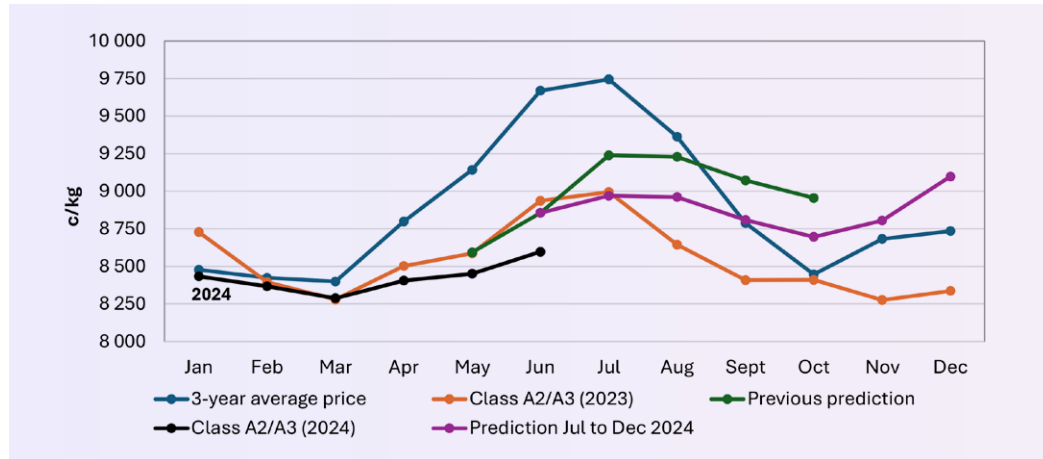
IMPORT OF BEEF

Imports from Namibia are only available until May 2024. In that month, South Africa imported approximately 5 029 tonnes of beef from Namibia, including live animals and canned meat, which was 29% higher than the previous month and 88,2% higher than the same month a year ago. Year-on-year, imports from Namibia amounted to approximately 47 101 tonnes in total (including live exports), which is equal to 6,3% of South African production over the same period.

MUTTON

In June 2024, year-on-year, the average producer price of A2/A3 mutton grades declined by 3,8%, B2/B3 grades remained unchanged, and C2/C3 grades declined by 1,4%. The decline in the price of the A2/A3 grades can mainly be attributed to higher supply and lower demand due to the pressure on consumer expenditure, which has led to relatively high price levels in the food market.

Figure 2 Seasonal trend in the price of Class A2/A3 lamb and a price prediction over the next six months



Also in June 2024, compared to May 2024, the average price of Class A2/A3 lamb was 3,8% lower than a year ago and 2,9% lower than the predicted price for June. Based on historic prices over the past 20 years, there is a 75% probability of a higher price in August 2024 than in July 2024.

LONG-TERM TRENDS IN SKIN PRICES

In June 2024, the average price of dorper skins was 4,1% lower than in May 2024, and merino skins 1,4% lower. Year-on-year, dorper and merino skin prices were

39,7% and 19% lower, respectively. Per piece, the average price of dorper and merino skins was R27,51 and R43,06, respectively.

IMPORT OF MUTTON

Imports of mutton from Namibia are only available until May 2024. In that month, South Africa imported 1 939 tonnes, including live animals, which was 14,8% more than the previous month and 42,0% more than the same month a year ago. Year-on-year, imports totalled around 13,7% of South African production over the same period.

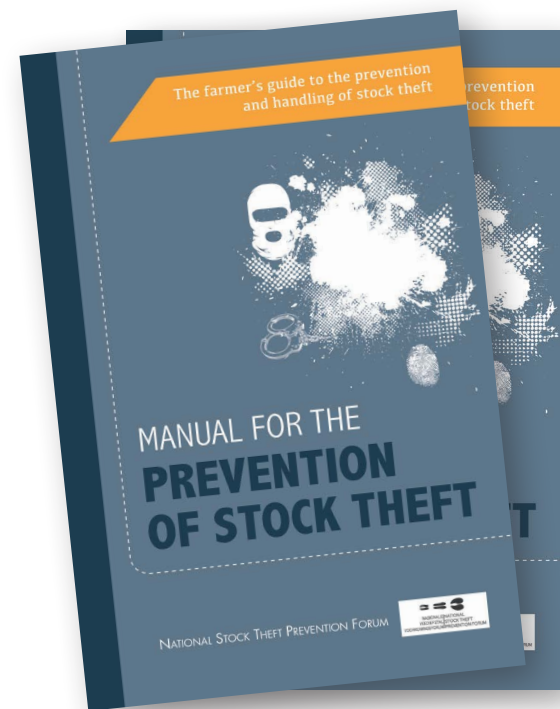


For more information, contact Pieter Cornelius, an agricultural economist affiliated with Amtrends (AMT), at Pieter@amtrends.co.za. ©

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RED MEAT MARKET ANALYSIS

by
Marlene Louw

[A short summary of market analyses relevant to the red meat industry]

Red meat prospects for the rest of 2025 – can the current upward price trend be sustained?

At the start of the year, our view was that red meat prices would face favourable pricing conditions during the course of 2024. This view was underpinned by the exciting prospects that new export destinations such as Saudi Arabia held and, secondly, the view was that local pressures on consumer income would ease and contribute to a revival in local demand for red meat products, which is considered a luxury in consumer food baskets. During the first four months of the year, carcass and weaner calf prices have been muted. Since May, we have, however, seen a gradual increase in carcass prices. Two questions emerge from this: What is driving the recent upward trend in prices? Can it be sustained and gain momentum over the second half of the year?

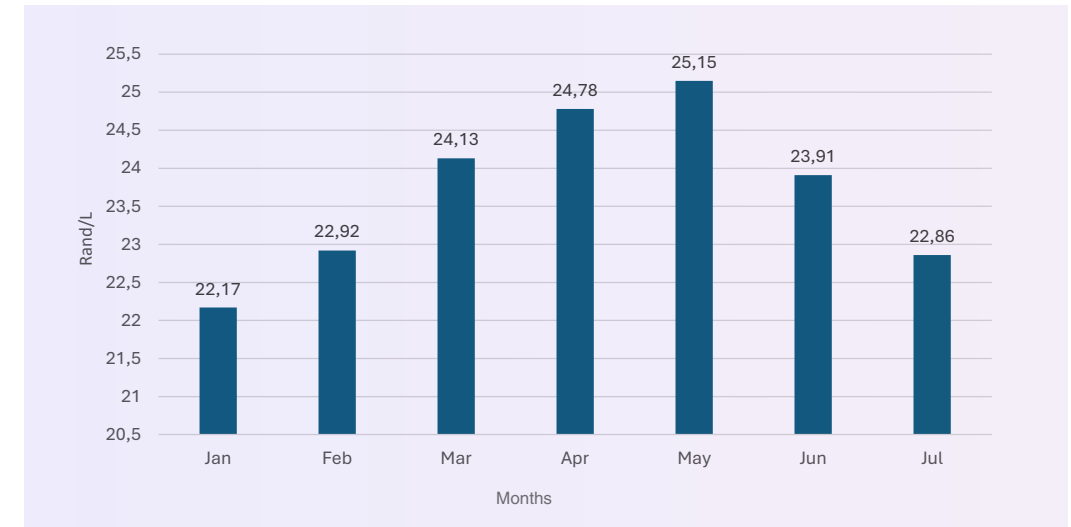
What has been driving the upward trend in red meat carcass prices since May?

Our view is that this is largely an effect of lower fuel prices. Since the start of May, fuel prices have decreased by almost 10% (Figure 1). This can amount to household savings ranging from between R100 and R500, depending on the fuel efficiency of your vehicle

and the number of kilometres travelled in a month. The impact is an increase in discretionary income, which would typically be allocated to more luxurious (food) products, of which red meat is an example.

Analysts expect oil prices to remain relatively stable during the second half of the year due to two opposing factors. On one hand, global demand is expected to be

Figure 1 Price of 93 unleaded petrol (January 2024 to July 2024)



Source: AA, 2024

relatively weak, particularly from China, which is also depending on cheaper oil imports from Russia. On the other hand, oil production cuts by members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Plus (OPEC+) are intended to support price levels.

Lower oil price levels, combined with the expectation that the rand could strengthen, which is elaborated on more in the section to follow, will likely further add to the downward momentum in fuel prices, which we deem to be positive for red meat consumption over the coming months.

What can we expect from the second half of the year?

As discussed, the uptick in demand over the last couple of weeks is largely a result of easing fuel prices. In addition to this, local market conditions are contributing to favourable market sentiments, supporting the rand.

Further afield, analysts are pricing in an interest rate cut in the United States

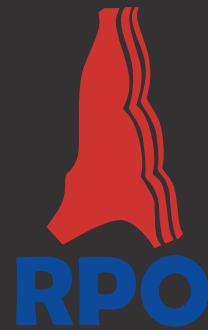
as soon as September, underpinned by inflation in that country slowing more than expected. This could further add to the strengthening of the rand, which would also lead to a local inflationary reprieve and relief of consumer income pressures.

Lower fuel prices and a stronger rand, in turn, filter through to the local inflation trajectory, which would likely positively impact subsequent interest rate decisions by the South African Reserve Bank over the course of 2024 and beyond.

A caveat to the positive prospects above

The positive views above do present downside scope. A key issue that will have bearing on the outlook is the price of chicken, which lost momentum from the rapid growth that it saw as a result of avian influenza in 2023. This will likely break the rate of growth in local red meat prices and cause the upward price trend to remain modest over the coming months. Ⓜ

Red Meat Price Transmission



Dr Frikkie Maré

Red Meat Producers Organisation

Introduction

Price transmission in the red meat value chain remains a hotly debated topic. Price transmission is the result of how the price of a product increases through the value chain and if information flows both ways (producer to retailer, and retailer to producer). Every time the producer price of livestock comes under pressure this scenario repeats itself and producers feel that their prices are on a downward spiral while the retail prices remain constant.

Producers then often compare the price they receive for carcasses at the abattoir with the retail prices of the most expensive cuts of lamb (loin chops) or beef (fillet or sirloin) and then complain about the price difference.

I think it is time to again report on the facts surrounding price transmission in the value chain. Producers currently have the following questions, and we will try to answer them:

1. Why is the difference between carcass prices and retail prices so big?
2. Do the retail prices decrease when carcass prices decrease?
3. Retailers say that the meat does not move over the counter. Why do they not decrease the price to stimulate demand?

Big difference between carcass and retail prices

We first have to realise that just as every abattoir has the right to pay what they feel is right for a carcass, every retailer has the right to set the retail prices to their desired price. Price is a function of supply and demand and we cannot interfere with prices.

The approach that there is a large difference between retail and carcass prices is usually built on a scenario where the price of A2 beef carcasses are compared with the price of fillet or sirloin steak, while the price of A2 lamb carcasses are compared with the price of loin chops. This means that the price of the whole carcass (**excluding VAT**) is compared with a single cut (most often expensive cut) **including VAT**.

A carcass does however not only contain prime cuts, and we have to consider a broader view if we want to compare carcass and retail prices. If one wants to compare retail with carcass prices in a direct manner, one should do it a bit broader. In a very practical example (Table 1), a visit to a large butchery in Pretoria revealed that the margin on loin chops was 111% which is unarguably very high. However, the margin on an approximately 4kg Braai Pack containing a whole rib and various chops was 24% while the margin on a whole or half carcass was only 9%. It must be remembered that these margins are for the whole value chain, and have to cover all costs between the abattoir and final consumer.

Table 1
Price comparison of lamb carcass vs single butchery retail prices

Abattoir A2 Lamb Carcass	Retail (Single Butchery)					
	Loin Chops		Braai Pack		Whole Carcass	
	(Inc VAT)	(Exl VAT)	(Inc VAT)	(Exl VAT)	(Inc VAT)	(Exl VAT)
R80/kg	R194/kg	R169/kg	R114/kg	R99/kg	R100/kg	R87/kg
Margin		111%		24%		9%

Table 1 is a very good example of the strength of supply and demand. From the different pricing strategy on lamb it is clear that the demand for loin chops is very high and therefore the higher margin can be realised. The demand for braai packs and whole carcasses is however very low. The high margin on loin chops also indicates that other, lower value cuts are not in demand and therefore the butchery has to make its profit from the cuts in high demand while it might be losing on lower value cuts and even on whole carcasses.

The question is then if we should take offence to the R194/kg for loin chops. The answer is **“NO”**. The fact of the matter is that the more the consumer is willing to pay, the more the producer price can increase. Consumers are prepared to pay R194/kg for loin, but only R114 for a pack that includes rib. Taking into consideration that there are a lot of other cuts as well, it is the combined pricing model that influences the demand for carcasses from the abattoir. We should commend a retailer that is able to sell cuts at high prices, as the higher the price he can get, the higher the price he can offer for a carcass.

If we really want to compare abattoir and retail prices however, we need to look at the whole carcass and all the available cuts in retail. In a RMRD SA funded study, Profs Hugo and Maré (2023) did this comparison. They purchased a 149.6kg beef side and a 20.3kg lamb carcass, did a block test on them (cut them up in all possible cuts) with individual weights of all cuts and then got retail prices for all the individual cuts from six (6) retail outlets. The results showed that, **Excluding VAT**, the average value chain margin on a beef carcass was 33%, while it was 44% on a lamb carcass (*please note the option to purchase a whole or half carcass at retail level was not included*). It must again be emphasised that this is the margin over the whole value chain and has to cover transport, cold storage etc. for all the role-players in the chain. When we compare this with products of which only the retail margin is as high as 30%, we have no basis to argue that the retail prices are too high.

Do retail prices decrease when carcass prices decrease?

The short answer is **“YES, IT DOES”**. The carcass price also decreases when retail prices decrease. The carcass price, however, also increases when retail prices increase and retail prices increase when the carcass price increases.

that we compare the price of a single cut or product with the carcass price. In order to see the interaction between the carcass and retail prices, we have to consider all the retail products as the retail price for a specific product is not only based on the carcass price, but on the demand as well.

The combined demand for all the products from the carcass determines what the retailer can pay per carcass. For example, an economic downturn in South Africa causes the demand for beef fore quarter cuts to drop drastically as consumers with low levels of disposable income can no longer afford the cheapest of beef cuts. This means for example that the retailer has to drop the price of fore quarter cuts by 20%, in order to sell it. The prime cuts from the hind quarter (steaks, biltong, lean mince etc) are however not affected and sell as usual as the economic downturn does not influence the consumers with high levels of disposable income as much. Assuming that the fore and hind quarters each make up half of the side in weight, it means that retail must now offer 10% less for the carcass to make ends meet.

Research by Ogundeji and Maré (2018) showed that both the retail and carcass prices follow one another and influence each other. The reason why we do not see this interaction on the retail shelf, is once again due to the fact

Meat does not move over the counter. Why do retailers not decrease the price to stimulate demand?

Retailers do decrease their prices when the demand for a product decreases. If they do not do it, they will not be able to sell anything. However, as a blanket approach, they decrease the price of specific cuts, not all cuts.

Considering the example above, if we want retail to now also drop the price of the prime cuts (those cuts we like to compare with carcass price) by 10%, as the carcass price has dropped by 10%, it will mean that they now will have to offer 15% less on the carcass to make ends meet. This will be a vicious cycle which will only decrease price further and further until everyone is giving meat away for free.

As producers we should rather commend retailers that are able to sell prime cuts for higher than average prices during times of low carcass prices. The better the marketing efforts of the retailer, the more presentable the shop, the better the experience, the more effort that goes into the preparation (aging) and presentation (packaging) of the meat, the higher the demand from the affluent consumer. As consumers purchase more of the prime products, the price will increase and in turn place the retailer in a position to offer more for a carcass even though the demand for and price of fore quarter cuts remain low.





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MeatWise Software is the leading choice for managing costs and maximizing profits in the raw meat industry. Tailored for meat retailers, butcheries, and deboning halls, it's an intuitive application developed from extensive industry experience. Originally crafted in 1985 with Lotus123 and now a user-friendly Windows desktop application, MeatWise ensures precise cost calculations for various meat cuts, facilitating optimal pricing strategies to maintain gross profitability.

In conclusion

The farm gate and retail are two very different worlds, and we cannot make conclusions on the workings of the whole meat value chain by comparing carcass prices and the price of specific retail cuts.

With this report I hope to clarify some questions there are on price formation, but I do however not say that all retailers are playing the game correctly. There are most certainly opportunists that will try to make super profits on meat, but these role-players will however price themselves out of the market in the long term and prices will eventually come back to the market equilibrium.

As producers we should refrain from spreading ill truths on social media. The only thing that the price comparison of carcass and retail prices of prime cuts on social media does is to scare away consumers from purchasing red meat. When a producer announces that he/she receives R80/kg (which **excludes VAT**) for his/her lamb carcass, while loin chops on the shelf cost R190/kg (which **includes VAT**), the message to the consumer is that meat should cost R80/kg. However, the only meat available for R80/kg is pork, poultry or fish.



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TESTIMONIAL – Bertus Steenkamp – Boma Meat Market Moreleta Park, Pretoria



MeatWise stands out as the most comprehensive and advanced costing software package currently available in the industry. Its parent and child block testing feature enables precise determination of the exact cost for any retail cut. Additionally, MeatWise's recipe management functionality allows for precise calculation of the cost and retail price for every recipe, encompassing packaging, spices, weight loss considerations, and labeling requirements.

FMD UPDATE:

Eastern Cape dairy farmers begin preventive vaccination

by
Fidelis Zvomuya



Eastern Cape dairy farmers are taking preventive measures against foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) following a recent outbreak. In a proactive move, the Department of Agriculture's animal health directorate has introduced a new approach, allowing farms within a 10 km controlled zone of an outbreak to apply for voluntary vaccination. This strategy is being implemented in the Eastern Cape for the first time.

Milk SA, a prominent dairy industry organisation, has advised farmers to carefully consider the implications of preventive vaccination. Dr Mark Chimes of Milk SA emphasised that while the state will not mandate vaccination, farmers need to be aware of the consequences. "Any farm where animals are vaccinated against FMD will be considered an FMD-positive farm," he explained. This designation effectively places the farm under quarantine, restricting the movement of cloven-hoofed animals without written permission from the state veterinarian for at least 12 months.

The preventive vaccination process includes specific protocols. Breeding and dairy cattle will receive a booster dose four to six months after the initial vaccination, while slaughter animals, such as those in feedlots, will only be vaccinated once. For clinically healthy herds opting for voluntary vaccination, the day the last animal is vaccinated is considered day zero. From this point, strict regulations apply for at least six months.

During the first six months, cloven-hoofed animals may only be slaughtered at FMD-approved slaughterhouses and must be transported with a red cross permit from the state veterinarian. After

this period, animals can be slaughtered at any facility, but transportation with a red cross permit remains mandatory due to the farm's quarantine status. Selling or moving animals for other purposes requires exceptional permission from the state veterinarian and is limited to transactions between farms with the same FMD status.

The impact of vaccination extends beyond animal movement. Milk from vaccinated farms is classified as FMD-positive and must be double pasteurised or processed using ultra-high temperature treatment. Milk processors handling milk from these farms will lose their export status unless they can demonstrate complete separation of infected and clean milk lines to the state. Trucks collecting milk from vaccinated farms must adhere to stringent biosecurity measures, complicating the logistics and potentially increasing costs for dairy producers.

Dr Chimes also highlighted the complexities involved in reclassifying a vaccinated farm as FMD-free. The entire herd must undergo serological blood testing for antibodies. Although it is possible to differentiate between vaccine-induced antibodies and those from an actual infection, false positives can occur, complicating the



interpretation of test results. Calves born to vaccinated cows will test positive for FMD antibodies until maternal antibodies naturally wane, further complicating the certification process.

The process to confirm a farm's FMD-free status is rigorous. Blood tests on calves born at least two months after day zero are conducted nine months post-vaccination. These tests aim to provide definitive proof that a vaccinated farm is free of FMD, a necessary step for lifting the quarantine and restoring normal operations.

Newly appointed Minister of Agriculture John Steenhuisen expressed support for the preventive measures and underscored the importance of cooperation among all stakeholders. "We must act decisively to prevent the spread of FMD and protect our agricultural sector. The voluntary

vaccination initiative is a critical step in this direction," he stated.

As dairy farmers navigate these new protocols, the agricultural community must remain vigilant and adaptable. The success of the vaccination initiative in the Eastern Cape could serve as a model for other regions facing similar challenges, reinforcing the importance of proactive measures in managing animal health and safeguarding the agricultural economy.

For more detailed information, farmers are encouraged to consult the latest guidelines from the National Animal Health Forum; the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development; the Red Meat Producers' Organisation; and the Milk Producers' Organisation. ®



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UNITY IN DIVERSITY: The Government of National Unity's promise for South African agriculture

John Steenhuisen, the new minister of agriculture.



Photo: DA.org.za

As South Africa embraces its new Government of National Unity, the agricultural sector finds itself at a pivotal juncture. With an industry as vital and sensitive as agriculture, the shifting political landscape brings both opportunities and challenges.

by
Fidelis Zvomuya

Wandile Sihlobo, chief economist at the Agricultural Business Chamber of South Africa and senior fellow at Stellenbosch University, underscores the essential role of agriculture in the nation's economic fabric. "The government of national unity should not make this sector a casualty of populist politics. Instead, they should see it as a source of economic growth and job creation in rural South Africa," he asserts. His perspective is clear, agriculture must be insulated from political manoeuvring to realise its full potential.

Sihlobo highlighted the significant contributions of agriculture, citing the National Development Plan's dedicated focus on the sector and the pragmatic steps outlined in the Agriculture and Agro-processing Master Plan (AAMP). These plans aim to enhance global competitiveness while achieving inclusive growth. However, Sihlobo warns that achieving these goals requires a steadfast commitment to implementation, professionalisation of civil servants, and a relentless focus on combating corruption.

Key areas for achieving consensus across political lines include protecting property rights

and releasing state-owned land to selected beneficiaries. Sihlobo emphasises that "title deeds should be a priority as they lend these beneficiaries much-needed dignity and a source of financing." Additionally, he calls for reinforcing state capacity and expanding programmes like blended finance to support black commercial farmers.

Addressing structural issues beyond agriculture-specific matters is also crucial. Sihlobo points to improvements in water infrastructure, logistics, energy reform, and digital communication as vital for rural development and agricultural growth. "To achieve consensus across different political views, several critical areas need attention. Ensuring that property rights are upheld is essential for the stability and growth of the agricultural sector. The government should continue releasing its land to selected beneficiaries and prioritise issuing title deeds, which are crucial for dignity and access to financing."

He says strengthening the capacity of government directorates involved in land reform and combating corruption is vital to ensure resources reach intended beneficiaries.

There are some calls for the new government to prioritise animal health, reducing excessive business costs under the Agricultural Product Standards Act (119 of 1990), and modernising regulations for agrochemicals, seeds, and other agricultural products are essential steps.

“

The government of national unity should not make this sector a casualty of populist politics. Instead, they should see it as a source of economic growth and job creation in rural South Africa.

Johann Kotzé of Agri SA echoes these sentiments, emphasising the need for robust support systems for farmers. "We must ensure accountability in grant allocation, improve extension services, modernise legislation, and enhance interdepartmental collaboration," he says. Kotzé highlights the recent budget allocation aimed at supporting smallholder farmers, boosting agricultural exports, and enhancing biosecurity measures as commendable efforts.

However, he also points out areas requiring further focus, such as rigorous monitoring and evaluation to prevent the misallocation of funds, improving the quality and quantity of extension services, and modernising outdated statutes to align with international standards.

FARM ATTACKS MUST END

Newly appointed Minister of Agriculture John Steenhuisen is prioritising the safety of farmers and farmworkers, asserting that "farm attacks cannot continue." Speaking soon after his inaugural budget speech, Steenhuisen emphasised the critical need to protect those who sustain the nation.

Steenhuisen's agenda includes a strong focus on the safety of rural communities and the accelerated implementation of the AAMP. Adopted in 2022, the plan serves as the foundation for inclusive growth within the agricultural sector, receiving widespread support. "I don't intend to reinvent the wheel," he stated. "My focus will be on the accelerated application of the plan's objectives and ensuring that my department fulfils its obligations."

The plan outlines key pillars such as inclusive growth, job creation, improved market access, and sustainable agricultural practices. It emphasises innovation, research, and the importance of agricultural infrastructure and human capital investment. Steenhuisen aims to build on the committees established by his predecessor, Thoko Didiza, to ensure continued progress.

"The greatest asset that the department and indeed South Africa has is the incredible farmers and farmworkers of our country," Steenhuisen remarked. Acknowledging their world-class status, he emphasised the need for continued support to both large commercial operations and new entrants. He plans to develop a comprehensive database to better understand the support needed by farmers.

AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR LAND REFORM AND RURAL



DEVELOPMENT


Minister of Land Reform and Rural Development Mzwanele Nyhontso has unveiled an ambitious plan to accelerate land reform and rural development in his 2024/25 budget speech. Highlighting the government's commitment to reversing centuries of land dispossession and addressing inequality, the minister outlined several key initiatives aimed at equitable land distribution, tenure security, and rural development.

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development has successfully surpassed its targets for the 2023/24 financial year by acquiring and allocating 67 376 hectares of land. For the 2024/25 period, the department has budgeted R466 million to acquire and allocate an additional 46 767 hectares. This includes the proactive acquisition of strategically located land and initiatives to ensure the security of tenure.

Nyhontso also addressed the challenges faced by community property associations (CPAs), emphasising the need for better governance, management, and financial support.



He announced plans to train 755 CPA executives and members this year to enhance their operational capabilities.

Since 1998, the restitution programme has settled over 83 205 land claims, benefiting approximately 2,3 million individuals. The minister noted that 3 million hectares of land had been restored at a cost of R26,4 billion, with an additional R26 billion allocated for financial compensation. For the upcoming financial year, the commission aims to settle 319 claims and finalise 339 claims, supported by a budget of R3,5 billion. 



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FMD in the spotlight at conference



The Eastern Cape Red Meat Producers' Organisation (RPO), Red Meat Industry Services (RMIS), and Agri Eastern Cape hosted a foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) conference at the Garden Court Hotel in Port Elizabeth on 19 June 2024, with over 130 guests in attendance.

The conference was split into two sessions where information and advice to the industry on FMD was shared. Session one started with an opening and welcome from Eastern Cape RPO chairperson Frik van Rooyen, who outlined the purpose of the conference.

Dr Liezel Wasserman delivered a highly informative presentation on the FMD virus, covering its transmission and practical biosecurity measures. Her presentation provided a solid foundation for the subsequent sessions throughout the day.

Dr Zoleka Ntondini from the Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform provided an update on the status of the disease in the Eastern Cape. She detailed the forward and backward tracing as part of their investigation of the virus's origin and discussed the movement

control measures in place in the Kouga/ KouKamma Local Municipality areas.

Dr Gerhard Neethling of the Red Meat Abattoir Association addressed the topic of FMD abattoirs, noting that South Africa currently has only one registered FMD abattoir, located in Phalaborwa. He emphasised the need for more FMD-registered abattoirs and briefly outlined the process and requirements for registering an abattoir.

Dewald Olivier, the chief executive officer of RMIS, presented an alternative FMD management and traceability strategy. He provided insights into the RMIS 2030 Strategy, which addresses animal diseases like FMD and emphasises traceability.

Karan Beef addressed two key topics related to the feedlot industry: buying risks, traceability, and exports, presented by Mr Ivor Karan, and biosecurity measures on farms, presented by Dr Jade Hilton.

Dr Frikkie Maré from the national RPO discussed the significant economic impact of FMD on the industry.

After each presentation, time was allotted for a question-and-answer session, during which the audience



traceability back to the farm of origin/birth. Auction facilities are encouraged to self-regulate, enforcing their own protocols to maintain biosecurity standards within their premises. Livestock agents should enforce compliance with all necessary paperwork for farmers to participate in accredited auctions that align with biosecurity rules.

Regarding traceability, various available platforms were discussed, and RMIS will provide a list of these to Agri Eastern Cape. Farmers are encouraged to adopt a traceability system using tamper-evident tags. Implementing traceability can potentially ease access to markets, making it advantageous for farmers to integrate such systems into their herds promptly.

Dewald Olivier from RMIS proposed the concept of achieving 'FMD-free with vaccination in compartments'. Vaccination is a globally accepted practice, but effective communication about its benefits is crucial. This approach would enable farmers, feedlots, and specific geographic areas to apply for 'freedom with vaccination' status within designated compartments.

When considering vaccination, it is essential to assess its potential impacts on various sectors such as stud animals, the milk industry, the wool industry, the pork industry, live exports, as well as the sheep and goat industry, including their export markets. These factors should be carefully weighed when making decisions regarding vaccination strategies.

- Eastern Cape RPO/Agri Eastern Cape

eagerly engaged with the presenters, leading to interesting and informative discussions.

The second session of the day was structured as a discussion with key industry role players, livestock agents, and farmers. During this session, resolutions for the way forward were decided upon for topics such as biosecurity, auctions, traceability, and vaccination.

For effective biosecurity, it is recommended that each farm conduct a risk assessment and develop a written protocol to create a risk profile tailored to its specific needs. Consulting with veterinarians, BKB biosecurity officers, or biosecurity experts is advised to ensure comprehensive and effective biosecurity measures.

Auctions must implement certified biosecurity plans, ensuring strict adherence to biosecurity rules for livestock agents. Every animal leaving a farm should be appropriately marked according to the standards of the Animal Identification Act (6 of 2000), ensuring

Dieregesondheid- en produksiesektor vergader in Parys



Die 91ste jaarlikse algemene sessie en eeufeesviering van die Wêreld-organisasie vir Dieregesondheid (WOAH, voorheen bekend as die OIE) wat onlangs in Parys plaasgevind het, is bygewoon deur Marzanne Roets, dr Gideon Brückner en Adrian Todd van die Nasionale Dieregesondheidsforum.

Die tema was die aanvang van die volgende vorderingsfase, en het 'n gepaste geleentheid gebied om te besin oor die rol van dieregesondheid in die bereiking van wêreldwye volhoubaarheidsdoelwitte. Hierdie tema was duidelik merkbaar in die meeste van die besprekings.

Die byeenkoms van verteenwoordigers van die dieregesondheids- en produksiesektore het die huidige One Health-uitdagings wat vee en menslike gesondheid bedreig, onder die loep geneem, en daar is ook besin oor voedselsekerheid, landelike lewensbestaan en die omgewing.

Dr Emmanuelle Soubeyran is verkies as nuwe direkteur-generaal vir die tydperk 2024 tot 2029, wat die begin van 'n nuwe era vir wêreldwye dieregesondheid te midde van vinnig ontwikkelende uitdagings inlui. Groter

samewerking sal nou belangriker as ooit wees.

Meer as 1 100 deelnemers uit 166 lande en gebiede het die geleentheid in persoon bygewoon – dit sluit verteenwoordigers van lidlande sowel as wetenskaplikes en waarnemers van vennoot-organisasies in.

Die siektes wat 'n groot impak op die meeste lande het, sluit in hoogs patogeniese voëlgriep, bek-en-klouseer, Afrika-varkpes, en alle vektoroordraagbare siektes, insluitende soönotiese siektes. Hierdie siektes is in diepte deur die wetenskaplike kommissie van die WOAH bespreek. Hier is 'n paar van die uitkomstes van hul besprekings:

Bek-en-klouseer

Altesaam 46 lande/gebiede het die voorkoms van bek-en-klouseer in 2023 of vroeg in 2024 (vanaf 8 Maart) by die WOAH aangemeld. Op 8 Maart 2024 was daar 67 lidlande/gebiede, 31 wat as bek-en-klouseer-vry erken word waar inenting nie toegepas word nie, en twee wat as bek-en-klouseer-vry erken word waar inenting toegepas

word. Twaalf lidlande word erken as bek-en-klouseer-vrye sones: ses met sowel sones waar inenting nie toegepas word nie as sones waar inenting wel toegepas word; vier met slegs bek-en-klouseer-vrye sones waar inenting nie toegepas word nie; en twee met bek-en-klouseer-vrye sones waar inenting toegepas word.

Die opsporing van nuwe serotipes in lande kan 'n rede tot kommer wees, aangesien dit vinnige aanpassing van beheerstrategieë verg. Entstowwe moet aangepas word by die sirkulerende entstofstamme, wat dus deurlopende monitering vereis. Die vinnige verspreiding van serotipe SAT 2 na nuwe gebiede vroeg in 2023 het die aandag van die internasionale gemeenskap op die probleem gevestig.

Gedurende die oorsigtydperk is SAT 2 vir meer as 10 jaar aangemeld in dele van Oos-Afrika (Kenia, Ethiopië, Tanzanië, Zimbabwe), Wes-Afrika (Benin), en Suider-Afrika (Botswana, Namibië, Suid-Afrika) en vir twee tot nege jaar in ander lande in hierdie streke sowel as in Sentraal-Afrika (Angola, Kameroen, Demokratiese Republiek van die Kongo). In Noord-Afrika en die Midde-Ooste is SAT 2 voor 2023 in Egipte (in 2012, 2014 en tussen 2016 en 2020), Palestina (in 2012 en 2013) en Soedan (in 2007, 2009 en 2013) aangemeld.

Hierdie verspreiding word waarskynlik onderskat aangesien die beskikbaarheid van inligting grootliks afhang van die tiperingsvermoë van die lande wat geraak word. WOAH beveel aan dat buurlande en handelsvennote toepaslike toesig en voorkoming verseker.

Hoogs patogeniese voëlgriep

Sommige lande oorweeg inenting om verliese weens voëlgriep te beperk. Soos beskryf in die relevante WOAH-standaarde, kan inenting teen voëlgriep oorweeg word as deel van 'n breër siektevoorkomings- en beheerstrategie. In Desember 2023 het die WOAH 'n beleidsopdrag oor die gebruik van inenting gepubliseer. Van die 139 lande en gebiede wat teen 8 Maart 2024 een of albei van hul sesmaandelikse verslae oor gelyste landdiersiektes vir 2023 ingedien het, het sewe die implementering van amptelike inenting teen voëlgriep aangemeld: China, Egipte, Hong Kong, Indonesië, Kazakstan, Rusland en Oesbekistan. Die WOAH verwag dat hierdie lys sal aangroei sodra alle lidlande hul sesmaandelikse verslae vir 2023 ingedien het. Die doeltreffendheid van die inenting van pluimvee teen voëlgriep hang af van die gebruik van toepaslike entstowwe teen die aanbevole dosis en ouderdom.

Afrika-varkpes

Gegewe die huidige wêreldwye teenwoordigheid en verspreiding van Afrika-varkpes en sy komplekse epidemiologie raak die beheer van die siekte al hoe meer uitdagend. Inenting kan 'n doeltreffende hulpmiddel vir siektebeheer wees, maar daar is lank reeds 'n gebrek aan doeltreffende entstowwe om Afrika-varkpes te beheer. Nog 'n belangrike manier om die impak en verspreiding van die siekte op grondvlak te verminder is om sonering en kompartementalising in te stel. – **NAHF**

New Zealand scraps 'burp tax' on livestock after farmer backlash



New Zealand has scrapped plans for a so-called 'burp tax' aimed at lowering greenhouse gas emissions from sheep and cattle.

The country's centre-right coalition government said it would exclude agriculture from the country's emissions trading scheme in favour of exploring other ways to reduce methane.

The move, which fulfils a pre-election pledge by former businessperson Christopher Luxon's National Party, comes after the plans to tax agricultural emissions from 2025 led to nationwide protests by farmers worried about the effect on their livelihoods.

"It doesn't make sense to send jobs and production overseas, while less carbon-efficient countries produce the food the world needs," agriculture minister Todd McClay said in a statement. - [Aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com)

Die jongste invoersyfers

Invoere van beesvleis het 2056 ton in April 2024 beloop, wat 'n toename van 182% verteenwoordig as dit met April 2023 vergelyk word, volgens Agri Inspecc.

Die vry-aan-boord-prys vir April 2024 was R54,50 p/kg. Dit verteenwoordig 'n styging van 27% in prys per kg as dit vergelyk word met April 2023. Die meeste invoere was uit Namibië met 283 ton.

lewende-speenkalv-invoere het 26 637 eenhede in April 2024 beloop, wat 'n toename van 1,4% verteenwoordig as dit vergelyk word met April 2023. Die prys was R6 715,56 per eenheid, wat 3% laer is as die prys wat in April 2023 behaal is.

Skaapvleisinvoere vir April 2024 het 678 ton beloop; 'n styging van 119% as dit vergelyk word met April 2023. Die vry-aan-boord-prys was R29,96 p/kg, wat 18% laer is as die April 2023-prys. Die meeste invoere was uit Australië (430 ton). - [Agri Inspecc](https://www.agriinspec.co.za)



NEWS

FROM THE PROVINCES

WES-KAAP

RPO WK JAARVERGADERING EN VISIE 2030

Die RPO Wes-Kaap het onlangs hul jaarvergadering op Laingsburg gehou, met die tema "Die RPO se visie vir 2030 en daarna." Dr. Frikkie Maré, hoofuitvoerende beampte van RPO Nasionaal, en dr. Peter Johnston van die Universiteit van Kaapstad se Climate System Analysis Group (CSAG), het as hoofsprekers opgetree. Maré het die fokuspunte van RPO en RMIS uitgelig, terwyl Johnston insig gegee het in klimaatsverandering en die impak daarvan op die rooivleisbedryf.

Die volgende lede is tydens die vergadering op die 2024/2025-bestuur verkies: Wessel Fourie, Lochner Eksteen, John Dürr, André Groenewald, Gert Aggenbach, Hano Dreyer, Nico Uys, Dian Heyns, Johann Coetzee, Francois Conradie, en Jaco van den Berg. Van

den Berg en Aggenbach is as voorsitter en vise-voorsitter verkies, terwyl Nico Uys as tweede vise-voorsitter van RPO Nasionaal aangewys is. Die RPO het sy dank uitgespreek aan alle lede wat vrywillige bydraes gemaak het en so die organisasie help om sy administratiewe en organisatoriese aktiwiteite te befonds.

'n Uitbreking van bek-en-klouseer is in Humansdorp, Oos-Kaap, aangemeld. Die RPO is in gesprek met die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Landbou (DLWK), om die verspreiding van die virus te voorkom en te verseker dat gebeurlikheidsplanne in plek is indien die virus na die Wes-Kaap versprei. Produsente word aangemoedig om alle biosekuriteits- en naspourbaarheidsmaatreëls na te kom om verdere verspreiding te voorkom.

Johnny Forbes is aangewys as die wenner van die Provinsiale Slaglam-kompetisie vir 2023. Die kompetisie beoordeel lammers tydens ses skoue per jaar, en die provinsiale wenner word uit die ses streekwenner gekies. Die deelname en gehalte van die inskrywings was hoogstaande.

Die RPO het saam met die DLWK finansiële bydraes gemaak vir die aankoop van nagsigtoerusting vir vee-diefstaleenhede. Produsente word





herinner aan die belangrikheid van die korrekte brandmerk van diere, gereelde telling en die onmiddellike aanmelding van veediefstalsake. Die RPO vergoed boere ook vir DNS-toetse wat nodig is vir hofverrigtinge insake veediefstal.

Die DLWK se CPAC (Commodity Project Allocation Committee) hanteer bemagtigingsprojekte vir herkouers binne die bedryf. Hierdie komitee oorweeg en evalueer aansoeke om hulp en maak aanbevelings aan die DPAC (Departmental Project Allocation Committee). Oor die afgelope 10 jaar is 128 projekte ter waarde van R100 miljoen goedgekeur. Die CPAC befonds slegs diere, en vroulike diere bly vir vyf jaar die eiendom van die staat.

Die Herkouerdag te Caledon vind plaas op 15 Augustus 2024, en die RPO WK sal weer betrokke wees by NAMPO Kaap van 11 tot 13 September 2024 te Bredasdorp.

Die RPO WK se jaarvergadering het belangrike insigte en beplanning vir die toekoms van die rooivleisbedryf opgelewer. Met 'n sterk fokus op klimaatsverandering, veediefstalvoorkoming en bemagtigingsprojekte bly die RPO daartoe verbind om produsente te ondersteun en die bedryf te versterk.

NOORD-KAAP

DIE RPO NOORD-KAAP VERKIES NUWE DAGBESTUURSPAN

RPO Noord-Kaap het in Junie vanjaar 'n nuwe dagbestuurspan tydens hul jaarlikse kongres verkies. Die organisasie is gereed om saam met landbouers en rolspelers in die waardeketting te werk om volhoubare en winsgewende landbou te bevorder.

Struktuur van die dagbestuur

- Brand du Toit – voorsitter

- Charl Saunderson – vise-voorsitter en RPO-vertegenwoordiger by die Provinsiale Diergesondheidsforum.
- Johan du Toit – addisionele lid, verteenwoordiger by die Provinsiale Predasiebestuursforum en voorsitter van die Oudit- en Risikokomitee.
- Frederick van Zyl – addisionele lid en verteenwoordiger by die Provinsiale Veediefstal- en Landelike Veiligheidsforum.

- Yolande Botha – bedryfsbeampte en direkte skakel vir alle RPO Noord-Kaap-aangeleenthede

Huidige projekte

- **Kursusse in predasiebestuur:** Hierdie kursusse word in Julie aangebied in Loeriesfontein, Calvinia, Pofadder, Prieska en Kimberley.
- **Roovleisdag:** Van 1 tot 3 Oktober in Upington en Olifantshoek om kommunikasie tussen RPO en landbouers te versterk.
- **Damesoggend:** Bevordering van rooivleis as proteïenbron deur kooklesse en betrokkenheid van skole.
- **Braaidag-kompetisie:** Verbetering van rooivleisgebruik en versterking van bande tussen rolspelers.
- **Borgskappe:** Ondersteuning van landbouskole, veehanteringskursusse en karkaskompetisies.
- **Opleiding vir opkomende boere:** Aangebied volgens die behoeftes van die mark.

- **Toekenningsaand:** Vereer die beste in verskeie kategorieë, soos veediefstal-ondersoekbeamptes, kandidate in kursusse vir die opkomende sektor, veeartse, abattoirs, bemerkingsagente en voerkraalagente.

Fokusareas vir die volgende jaar

Die RPO Noord-Kaap se fokus sal wees op die bevordering van rooivleisgebruik, verbeterde kommunikasie, ondersteuning van opkomende boere, en die versterking van dieregesondheid en naspeurbaarheid. Daar sal ook gefokus word op werksessies tussen rolspelers om uitdagings in die waardeketting die hoof te bied en misverstande rondom prysoordrag op te los. Die doel is om 'n naspeurbaarheidstelsel in die provinsie te vestig wat voordelig sal wees vir uitvoere en die plaaslike produsent.

Die RPO Noord-Kaap is verbind tot die ondersteuning van landbouers en die verbetering van die rooivleisbedryf deur samewerking en innovasie.

LIMPOPO

VEEDIEFSTALVOORKOMING ERNSTIG OPGENEEM

'n Uiters suksesvolle vergadering van die Limpopo Vee- en Wilddiefstalvoorkomingsforum het op 3 Julie 2024 in Polokwane plaasgevind. Die forum het hande gevat met die SAPD Veediefstaleenheid, en die vergadering van die SAPD se Provinsiale Prioriteitskomitee vir Veediefstal gaan nou as 'n gesamentlike forum een keer per kwartaal in persoon plaasvind. Ons volgende vergadering word vir 11 September 2024 beplan.


Nuusbrokkies uit Limpopo:

- Probleme word ondervind met veediefstal en 'n veediefstal-werkswinkel word op 24 Julie 2024 op Magatle gehou.
- Die lae pryse op die oomblik druk die finansiële knyptang al hoe stywer.
- Die planne om 'n mark te skep vir vleis vanuit die rooi gebied (BKS-beheerde gebied) in Limpopo word optimisties afgewag.
- Entstowwe, veral vir knopvelsiekte, is baie duur. BM-entstof is nie altyd beskikbaar nie en entstof vir olifantvelsiekte is net in groot maat beskikbaar.
- Diersiektes wat voorgekom het:



rooiwater, hartwater, knoppiesvel en beesmastitis.

- Predasieprobleme word ondervind met luiperds, hiënas en wildehonde.
- Vrektes as gevolg van snotsiekte het die afgelope jaar in Modimolle, Lephalale en Roosenekal voorgekom. Die sloering met die goedkeuring van die snotsiekte-entstof is problematies en intussen is daar niks wat gedoen kan word om 'n bees te red sou dit die siekte opdoen nie. Boere ly enorme finansiële verliese.
- Weiding is skaars, veral in gedeeltes van Thabazimbi, Roedtan, Groblersdal, Jane Furse, Ohrigstad, Roosenekal, Stofberg en Modimolle, en diere word reeds gevoer.

- Toets van brusellose: 69% van produsente het nog nooit toetse laat doen nie.
- 81% van produsente ent verskalwers teen brusellose in.
- Toets van tuberkulose: 81% van produsente het nog nooit teen TB ingeënt nie.
- Gereelde skedewasse: 63% van produsente doen dit gereeld of wanneer bulle ingekoop word.
- 50% van produsente weet nie wie die staatsveearts in hul gebied is nie.
- 56% van die produsente het 'n geslote kudde. 

2024

KALENDER

AUGUSTUS

- 12** Oos-Kaap: Uitvoerende bestuur
- 13** RMIS: Kwartaal 3
- 14** Nasionaal: Veediefstal
- 14** AWK Raad en Bestuur
- 14** Oos-Kaap: Kongres en dieregesondheid
- 15** AWK Jaarkongres
- 15** Oos-Kaap: Kongres
- 20** Noordwes: Dieregesondheid
- 22** Wes-Kaap: Bestuur
- 22** Vrystaat: Dagbestuur en Uitvoerende Raad
- 22** Limpopo: Veediefstal en dieregesondheid
- 22** Mpumalanga: Veediefstal
- 27** Wes-Kaap: Veediefstal
- 29** Nasionaal: Uitvoerende raad en konferensie

SEPTEMBER

- 11** Limpopo: Dagbestuur
- 11** Noord-Kaap: Oudit en risikobestuur
- 12** Noord-Kaap: Dagbestuur
- 12** Gauteng: Bestuur en veediefstal



Dit is moontlik dat vergaderings aanlyn kan geskied. Lede word aangeraai om hul provinsiale bestuur te kontak vir bevestiging.



VIR MEER INLIGTING KONTAK / FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Corine Steyn
corine@rpo.co.za
 012 349 1102



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- is die amptelike mondstuk van die Rooivleisprodusente-organisasie (RPO), wat meer as 12 000 rooivleisprodusente verteenwoordig.
- bereik met elke uitgawe sowat 10 000 bees- en skaapboere landswyd, wat elk die tydskrif direk via e-pos ontvang.
- is 'n kragtige medium om inligting by medeboere uit te bring.
- sluit digitale bemarking per e-nuusbrief in.
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03/08/2024	Bosveld Dorperklub	Carel Chalmers - 082 896 9586	Bela-Bela
09/08/2024	Bonsmara Genetics	Hendrik van der Walt - 083 628 9301	Roedtan
15/08/2024	André Hugenoot Stoet	HP van der Walt - 081 011 2049	Mookgophong
22/08/2024	Nedibest Brahmane & Gasverkopers	Carel Chalmers - 082 896 9586	Thabazimbi
24/08/2024	Bosvelder Studiegroep	Carel Chalmers - 082 896 9586	Bela-Bela
28/08/2024	Pietersburg Jongbees & Vetvee	Craig le Roux - 082 808 7747	Polokwane
07/09/2024	Doornpoort Genetics	Carel Chalmers - 082 896 9586	Bela-Bela
14/09/2024	Rhenostervallei Beefmasters	Carel Chalmers - 082 896 9586	Bela-Bela
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GEBRUIK L(OË)GIKA

in ekstensiewe veeboerdery



Ekstensiewe veeboere verkeer tans onder enorme algemene en ekonomiese druk weens verskeie faktore, maar veral weens swak winsgewendheid. Min kan gedoen word aan die stygende koste van insette en swak markpryse vir natuurlike vesel en vleis. Dit laat die veeboer met geen ander uitweg nie as om produksiedoeltreffendheid te verbeter. Hier kan fyn waarneming 'n groot rol speel. Dit behels die doeltreffende aanwending van hulpbronne soos natuurlike weiding en ander voerbronne, strategiese toewysing van beskikbare kontantvloei, die beperking van verliese, en goed ingeligte besluitneming. Maar dan ook gereelde visuele evaluering van jou kudde en jou veld ...

deur

Alheit du Toit

MINDER TYD = MINDER BEHEER

Hoewel dit soms 'n ongemaklike waarheid is, is dit 'n realiteit dat die gemiddelde veeboer se boerdery met verloop van tyd noodgedwonge groter geword het – skaalekonomie beteken dat vaste insetkoste meer doeltreffend oor groter getalle diere versprei word. Veetroppe word ook al groter om verskeie redes. Verder het die meeste veeboere se arbeidsmag verklein in verhouding tot die aantal diere in 'n poging om meer kostedoeltreffend te boer, en minder mense moet dus meer doen en waarneem. Daar moet dus meer staatgemaak word op ander mense, asook delegering in teenstelling met eerstehandse betrokkenheid.

Daarmee saam hou tegnologie en ander administratiewe verpligtinge die boer al hoe meer in die kantoor of op die telefoon en al minder in die veld. Minder tyd word dus tussen vee bestee, wat persoonlike beheer bemoeilik, fyn waarneming inperk en daartoe lei dat verliese en ondoeltreffendhede meer raak. Soos die bekende spreekwoord lui: "Ver van jou goed, naby jou skade." Dit is allermins 'n aanklag, maar wel die pynlike realiteit vir die moderne veeboer!



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ALLES IN PERSPEKTIEF

In hierdie moeilike tye is 'n mens dus genoodsaak om 'n tree terug gee en jou boerdery en bestuurspraktyke in oënskou te neem ten einde ondoeltreffendhede te probeer identifiseer. Word die beste opsies werklik benut as dit kom by aanvullende voeding? Is die huidige lekprogram optimaal vir die spesifieke plaastoestande en produksiedoelwitte, en is dit goed beplan? Waar kan waarde toegevoeg en veld- en voerbenutting verbeter word? Word beskikbare voerbronne wel volledig of goed benut? Hierdie is slegs enkele voorbeelde van vrae wat gevra kan word.

Dit is ook belangriker as ooit om van enige ondoeltreffende diere ontslae te raak en seleksiedruk op te skerp waar moontlik. Daar is altyd diere wat met dieselfde insette eenvoudig net heelwat swakker presteer! Te groot diere se onderhoudsbehoefte is byvoorbeeld hoër, wat hulle minder doeltreffend maak, terwyl te klein en smaller diere baie keer nie genoegsame rumenkapasiteit het nie, en swak produksie is dikwels die gevolg. Balans en die korrekte tipe dier vir 'n plaas se omstandighede en bestuurstelsel is daarom van kritieke belang.

FYN WAARNEMING

Wanneer die boer dan wel in die veld en tussen die vee beweeg, moet daar doelbewus gefokus word om nie net te kyk nie, maar werklik te sien! Neem noukeurig waar wat die diere se gedrag is en probeer afleidings daarvolgens maak. Besluite wat die diere se wil in ag neem, is gewoonlik baie meer suksesvol as wanneer ons ons menslike wil op hulle afdwing. Indien diere byvoorbeeld lang tye rondom waterkrippe vertoef, maak seker dat die krippe wel voldoende watervloei lewer sodat diere kan drink en gaan wei. Stel ook vas of die watertemperatuur nie dalk

te warm is weens pype wat bo die grond loop nie (of water dalk gevries is in die winter). Water uit plastiektenks is dikwels ook warmer as dié uit sementdamme. Dit kan dalk nodig wees om infrastruktuur op te gradeer deur dikker pype te installeer en/of meer kripspasie te verskaf.

Let op na vee se weidingspatrone – wei hulle rustig en lê en herkou wanneer hulle dikgevreet is, of word daar die hele kamp vol na kos aangehardloop? Storm die trop die bakkie wanneer iemand die kamp binnekom, of staan en wag hulle by die hek? Styg lekinname skielik? Dit kan alles aanduidings wees dat die beskikbare volume weiding nie voldoende is nie of verkeerde lekbakgedrag aangeleer is. Evalueer deurentyd die rumenvul van diere, asook kondisie, en maak bestuursaanpassings daarvolgens.

Visuele evaluasie van diere se mis oor 'n tydperk, veral in die geval van beeste, is 'n baie nuttige wyse om te bepaal hoe effektief die vertering van ruvoer plaasvind. Sou diere se mis harder raak en daar meer onverteerde vesel in die mis teenwoordig wees, is dit tipies 'n aanduiding dat meer proteïen aangevul kan word of dat die benutting van aanvullende proteïen nie voldoende is nie, dalk weens suboptimale rumen-beskikbare energie. Dit beteken nie ondervoeding van die dier nie, maar ondervoeding van die rumenmikrobe wat die ruvoer vir die dier moet verteer. Moet egter nie slegs afleidings maak op grond van 'n enkele misbol of slegs een dag se mis nie; doen deurgaans evaluasie, doen liggaamskondisiebepaling en neem ook waar hoe lekinnames of die weidingspatrone en gedrag van vee verander.

PLASING VAN LEBBASSE

Lekbakplasing is ook baie belangrik.



Waar bakke dikwels gerieflikheidshalwe naby aan waterpunte geplaas word, bring diere meer tyd daar deur, wei minder en oorbeweï ook gewoonlik gedeeltes rondom die waterpunte. Dit kan versag word deur lekbakke verder van die water te plaas en die diere so as't ware weg te lok na ander dele van kampe. Dit hou ook die bykomende voordeel in dat dit help om leknames en porsiegrootte te reguleer, en kan as veiliger beskou word wanneer ureum-bevattende lekke verskaf word, deurdat diere nie dadelik kan water suip nie en tipies wei-wei tussen lekbakke en waterpunte beweeg.

So ook kan lekbakke strategies geplaas word om benutting van sommige dele van die kampe te verbeter, of om ongewenste graspolle (bv. suurder grasspesies) oop te trap en so aan ander, meer gewenste plantspesies die geleentheid te gee om te vestig. Dit is egter van kritieke belang om bakke nie vir te lang periodes op dieselfde plekke te laat nie, omdat dit tot totale vertrapping sal lei. Bied daarna genoeg hersteltyd aan die veld.

EVALUEER EN WYSIG


Natuurlike veldweiding is die veeboer se grootste en belangrikste bate – die doelwit moet altyd optimale benutting wees. Dit vereis 'n goeie weidingbestuursplan, doelgemaak vir jou plaas en mikpunte, maar ook buigbaarheid in benadering namate die spesifieke seisoen of jaar afloop. Evalueer veldtoestande en beskikbare volume deurentyd en wysig die beweidingsprogram en aanvullende

voeding daarvolgens. Gegewe die groot variasie in die veld se voedingsamestelling deur die loop van 'n seisoen, kan een lekmengsel eenvoudig nie heeljaar verskaf word met die verwagting dat tekorte en wanbalanse deurgaans doeltreffend reggestel sal word nie.

Dit is veral ten tye van swak winsgewendheid uiters belangrik om fondse en hulpbronne te bestee aan die korrekte diere en produksiestadiums, met 'n fokus op balans – dis daar waar die grootste wins op belegging verkry kan word. Dit geld vir die uitgroei van jong diere, asook vir vroulike diere voor en tydens dektyd, sowel as laatdragtigheid en vroeë laktasie. Teeldiere mag egter nie toegelaat word om buite die genoemde produksiestadiums onder kondisie te raak nie.

'n Goed beplande strategiese lekprogram, saamgestel deur 'n dierevoedingspesialis, is goud werd en moet bydra tot winsgewendheid. Waak teen slaafse navolging van 'n program sonder om seisoensverskille, reënvalpatrone en vee se liggaamskondisie in ag te neem. Maar so 'n program dien as 'n uitstekende grondslag vir deurlopende besluitneming.

GESONDE LOGIKA

Uiteindelik kom veeboerderybestuur neer op die toepassing van goeie, gesonde logika. Wees versigtig om raad van enigiemand aan te neem, moenie oorhaastige besluite neem nie, en hoewel korttermyn-winsgewendheid belangrik is, moet die fokus altyd ook op medium- tot langtermyn-volhoubaarheid wees. Bogenoemde inligting is nie noodwendig nuwe nuus is nie, maar dit dien hopelik as 'n prikkel om fyner en meer doelgerig waar te neem en in moeilike tye koelkop-besluite te neem. Gebruik dus jou l(oë) gika en geniet jou boerdery! 



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Supplementation of beef cows

The nutritional requirements of beef cows change as they progress through different production phases. Supplementation in terms of protein, energy, minerals (macro and micro), and vitamins is key when addressing these nutritional requirements and will vary depending on the availability and quality of grazing.

by
Ashley Grimsell

A low body condition score (BCS) at the time of calving (less than 3 on the 5-point scale) will extend the anoestrus period in cows. The anoestrus period is defined as the period when the cow is recovering from calving and not cycling. A cow that regains her condition late in the breeding season will inevitably miss the breeding season or calve late in the following calving season. In first-calf cows, this effect is heightened, as they can take between 80 and 100 days to come into oestrus after calving, whereas mature cows usually return to oestrus between 50 and 60 days. The aim of any beef producer should be to keep cows that calve each year, meaning they should return to oestrus as soon as possible and be pregnant within 90 days of calving. Additionally, beef cows should maintain a BCS of between 3 and 3,5 throughout the year. This can be achieved by managing the supplements cows receive during the various stages of production to minimise the risk of deficiencies.

The third trimester is undoubtedly the most important phase during the pregnancy of the beef cow; however, little emphasis has been placed on the first and second trimesters due to their perceived 'limited' roles in calf development. Nonetheless, nutrition during these phases will also influence the performance of the future calf. Restrictions in maternal nutrition will

inevitably affect the development and future production potential of the calf, which will be discussed below.

EARLY TO MID-PREGNANCY (0-3 MONTHS PREGNANT)

The majority of the calf's organs develop during early pregnancy, and there are specific 'windows' when specific organs develop. Therefore, should cows experience nutritional deficiencies during early gestation (which coincides with the peak lactation period), not only will the suckling calf be at a nutritional disadvantage, but the future calf will be exposed to a developmental disadvantage as organ development may be restricted.

The nutritional requirements of cows peak at 60 days post-calving; however, intake during this phase is typically lower, resulting in a negative energy balance in early to mid-pregnancy. Beef producers in South Africa typically choose to calve their cows during the rainy season when forage availability is highest, thereby requiring lower supplementation rates compared to cows calving on dry grazing. Calving when the most forage is available allows the producer to mitigate the negative energy balance during early to mid-pregnancy, thanks to the higher quality of the forage material available at that time. Farmers with access to grain stover fields or irrigated pastures, which



offer good sources of food for cattle during the drier months, are an exception to the general practice of calving during the rainy season. These farmers choose to calve their cows during the dry season, instead.

MID-PREGNANCY (3-6 MONTHS PREGNANT)

During pregnancy, muscle fibres develop in two separate waves. The first wave takes place during mid-pregnancy and the second wave between six and nine months of pregnancy. The development of muscle fibres during these two separate waves will inevitably become the muscle potential of the calf in the future. If producers opt to calve during the rainy season, cows generally reach the mid-pregnancy phase while on dry grazing, characterised by low forage quality (high lignin content) and, consequently, low protein supply. If cows do not receive adequate quantities of supplemental protein, they will need to mobilise skeletal muscle tissue to meet the requirements of mid-pregnancy. So, to support the initial wave of muscle fibre development and ensure

proper condition is maintained, cows should receive sufficient protein from supplements during mid-pregnancy. Otherwise, cows may experience a loss of body condition, meaning a decrease in body mass during this phase.

LATE PREGNANCY (6-9 MONTHS PREGNANT)

Muscle and adipose (fat) tissue development dominate the third trimester; therefore, this phase has the greatest impact on the future calf's production tissues. After the calf is born, there is no increase in the number of muscle fibres, hence producers cannot rectify in utero deficiencies to stimulate muscle fibre synthesis post-partum. In addition, adipose tissue development during this phase can affect the marbling observed in carcasses when they are harvested.

Various research suggests that cows experiencing a protein deficiency during late pregnancy gave birth to bull calves with lower birth weights and, in turn, lower carcass weights at slaughter compared with those born to dams supplemented with protein. Similar results have been observed in heifers. Heifers born to cows that received protein supplementation had higher weaning weights, higher 205-day weights, and attained puberty at a younger age than those born to dams that were not supplemented with protein.

The phased approach to the pregnancy of the beef cow has highlighted the importance of balanced nutrition and the lasting effects it can have on the calf crop. In essence, beef farming is a long-term operation, and what is saved today may cost you dearly in the future, so make wise decisions when it comes to the supplementation of your beef cows. [®]

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Revolutionising modern livestock farming: The role of Caremix

By André Pienaar

The process of rearing livestock has certainly changed over the last few decades. Gone are the days when you could simply throw an animal in a field or feed it from a trough, rear great looking animals, and turn a profit. Gone are the days when the techniques of the past ensured profitability and sustainability. Modern economic conditions have reduced the margin of error to a point where farmers need to be more precise and make the most out of what they have. Adding another layer of complexity, science and research have changed the way we look at animal rearing, identifying where the smallest changes can be made for the biggest gains. These changes alter the rules and strategies to a point where farmers might struggle to keep up. However, this does not mean farmers are alone in facing this challenge; there are solutions to make this journey easier.

Looking at complete feeds, the story starts with the smallest part of any ration: vitamins and minerals, commonly known as premix. Premixes can be formulations on their own, varying in composition and components that can influence production in significant ways. Unlike the building blocks of tissue, energy, and protein, vitamins and minerals are required in small amounts but play critical roles in facilitating crucial production

processes. Think of them as the oil to your engine, ensuring all processes function correctly and effectively. The hidden secret is that premixes allow you to make small changes that have big impact.

What has to be in a premix? What levels of minerals and vitamins should you provide? It is a science in itself, but it does not have to give you a headache. There are some general rules that you can follow as a starting point to decide if you are applying the right things.

- 1) We have a good understanding of the requirements for animals when it comes to vitamins and minerals. More importantly, these requirements do not need to be addressed solely by a premix. Providing all the requirements through a premix wastes money without a financial return and also leads to the risk of toxicity. Feed ingredients are good sources that supply a portion of the total requirement of vitamins and minerals, with the premix providing the additional nutrients needed to achieve the optimal supply.
- 2) The sources of vitamins and minerals matter. The goal is to supply these nutrients in the best form possible,

ensuring they are stable and available. This ensures that the animal receives what it needs and that you get more value from the ingredients you pay for.

- 3) Cheap and low-quality options are not the way to go. A less expensive premix is not always the key to profitability, and you might not get the value you expect from it.
- 4) Make sure you compare apples to apples. Not all premixes are equal, so it is important to consider both the composition and the cost per animal or per kilogram of feed (not per kilogram of premix) when comparing different products. Ensure that the premixes you are comparing have similar ingredients and nutritional levels.

The good news is that you are not alone on this journey. Agriculture has evolved in many ways, allowing farmers access to various resources, such as specialised premade products and technical experts. Previously, the challenge was often access to these experts or the ability to afford such support. New and innovative methods are now being developed to tackle this problem and empower farmers even more.

Introducing Caremix, Trouw Nutrition South Africa's unique solution for providing premix and feed solutions to a growing market. Caremix is a nutritional package designed to supply vitamins, minerals, and selected additives in a balanced mixture, ensuring that animals receive what they need to complement their feed. Caremix is aimed at delivering key nutritional solutions to farmers.

- 1) A premix balanced according to the needs of animals based on the latest research, promoting health and performance. This gives you peace of mind that all the science behind vitamins and minerals has been taken care of for you.
- 2) Provides vitamins and minerals at levels that will complement what animals receive from feed, thereby reducing the cost of the premix.
- 3) Packaging options that reduce the need to source premix ingredients separately. Having all your macro and micro premix ingredients in one pack reduces labour during mixing and minimises the risk of mixing errors on the farm.
- 4) Designed with the home mixer in mind, offering more power and transparency to the farmer.
- 5) Provides complimentary feed formulations with Caremix packs to ensure production, while reducing feed costs by allowing you to mix feed at home.

Caremix has been designed to offer farmers the resources they need to mix competitive feed, while maintaining peace of mind in meeting the modern demands of animal rearing. By utilising these new resources, farmers can bridge the gap between complex nutritional requirements and practical needs, ensuring they get the best possible solutions to thrive in tough economic conditions.

For more information visit www.trouwnutrition.co.za

GENETIC RECORDING: SA STUD BOOK MAKES IMPACT AT ICAR CONFERENCE 2024



The 46th Annual ICAR (International Committee for Animal Recording) Conference and Interbull Meeting took place from 19 to 24 May 2024 in Bled, Slovenia, and was attended by more than 480 representatives from 48 countries. The SA Stud Book delegation consisted of Drs Japie van der Westhuizen, Bobbie van der Westhuizen, and Bernice Mostert. It is clear that in terms of world-class genetic recording, SA Stud Book is making a global impact.

SA Stud Book has represented South Africa for several years on ICAR and its important sub-committee, Interbull.

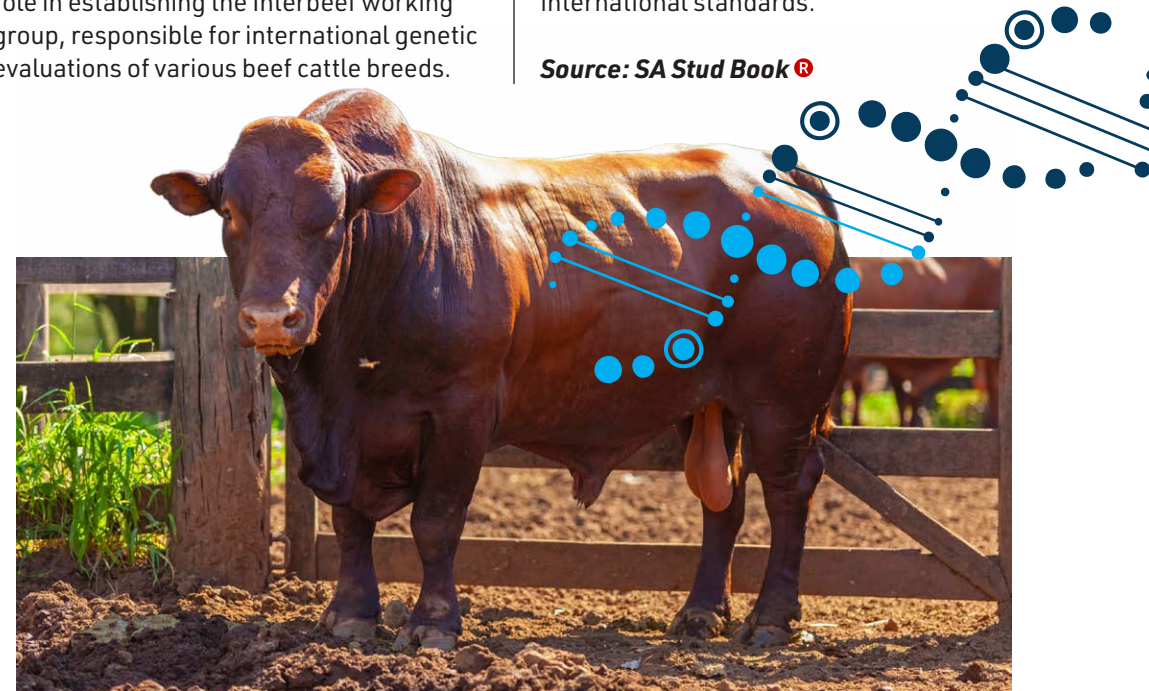
ICAR's sub-committees and working groups are responsible for the establishment of worldwide standards and the resultant accreditation and certification of note-taking practices for farm animals, the processing of data, genetic merit prediction, and the application of the processed information. The ICAR sub-committee for animal identification, for example, takes care, among other things, of the accreditation of ear tags and electronic identification systems.

Dr Japie van der Westhuizen's affiliation with ICAR dates back to 1996, initially representing the Agricultural Research Council, and he has been representing SA Stud Book since 2011. He also served two terms on the ICAR board. During his tenure, he co-founded the ICAR beef cattle working group (where he served as chairperson for one term) and played a key role in establishing the Interbeef working group, responsible for international genetic evaluations of various beef cattle breeds.

Additionally, he has been a member of the milk recording working group. Currently, he serves on Interbeef's technical committee and is part of the expert advisory group for ICAR's quality certification (EAG for CoQ). Dr Bobbie van der Westhuizen also serves on Interbeef's technical group and contributes to the team responsible for genetic model specification and genetic variance components for international genetic merit prediction in beef cattle.

Dr Bernice Mostert represents SA Stud Book at Interbull, the sub-committee responsible for international genetic merit predictions for dairy cattle, of genomic information for parentage confirmation and discovery, and the exchange of genomic profiles and other related services. SA Stud Book provides services to breeders' associations, including animal identification data processing; dairy, beef, and small livestock recording; technical services; and genetic merit prediction that meet ICAR's international standards.

Source: SA Stud Book®





CATTLE GENETIC TESTING

Identity:

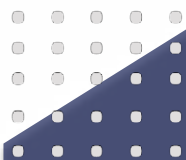
- DNA Profile and Parentage testing
- 50K Illumina Bovine Beadchip

Characteristics:

- Coat colour
- Polled

Single mutation tests:

- Congenital myasthenic syndrome (CMS)
- Pompe disease
- Myostatin (F94L, nt821, Q204X)
- Bulldog dexter
- Polled (Celtic)



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VEESIEKTEVERSLAG
LIVESTOCK DISEASE REPORT



deur
dr. Danie Odendaal – Veearts Netwerk

HONDSOLHEID by vee is 'n siekte wat jou onkant kan vang

Elke siekte of siektetoestand het 'n eiesoortige manier van oordrag en ontwikkelingsproses wat bepaal waar en op watter vlak siektes voorkom. Vir die algemeenste voorkombare siektes soos sponssiekte en bloednier is daar baie doeltreffende entstowwe waarmee die voorkoms van die siektes amper heeltemal uitgeskakel kan word. Dan is daar ook siektes wat net in baie beperkte areas 'n probleem is, maar die area verskil van jaar tot jaar. Dit is siektes waarvoor daar 'n vroeë-waarskuwingstelsel moet bestaan, waardeur die veearts die veeboere in 'n spesifieke distrik dadelik kan waarsku indien die siekte wel voorkom. Hondsolheid is 'n baie goeie voorbeeld omdat dit 'n unieke metode van oordrag het en omdat dit diere tans net in baie spesifieke areas aantast, maar die siekte is wel besig om op 'n wyer grondslag toe te neem.

Hondsdolheid word oorgedra en onderhou binne spesifieke bevolkings van hoofsaaklik roofdiere soos witkwasmuishonde in die Vrystaat, rooijakkalse in die noorde van die land en honde in KwaZulu-Natal. Die siekte word in die bevolkings onderhou deurdat 'n dier wat aangetas is die volgende dier sal byt voordat die aangetaste dier vrek, en so word die siekte dan oorgedra en onderhou.

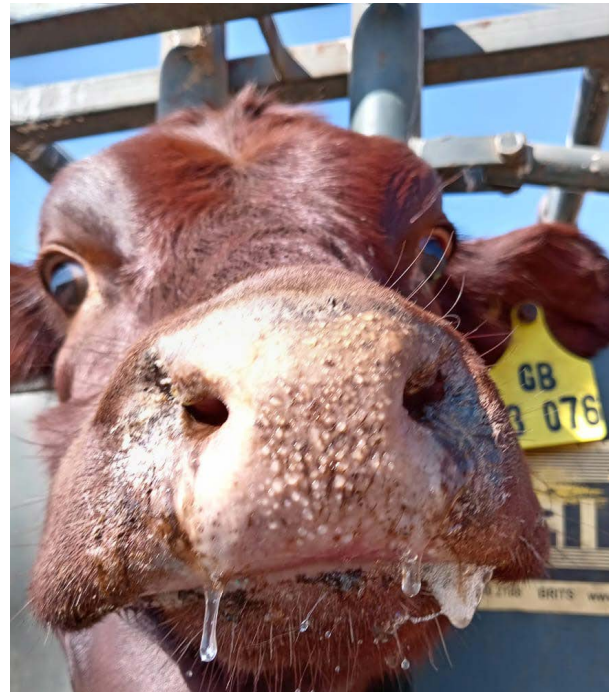
Die virus kan omtrent alle diersoorte aantast, insluitend mense. Die virus kom voor in die speeksel van die siek dier en vir suksesvolle oordrag moet daar 'n diep wond geskep word, wat dan besmet word met die speeksel vol virusse. Die virus sal die senuweestelsel binnedring en so migreer na die brein, wat dodelik is vir die aangetaste dier. Roofdiere met hul skerp oogtande is dus die ideale gasheer vir die oordrag van die siekte.

By vee is die proses anders, omdat dit 'n doodloopstraat vir die siekte is. Dit beteken dat vee aangetas kan word indien hulle deur 'n hondsdol roofdier gebyt word, maar dat hulle nie die siekte voortdra deur ander diere aan te steek nie. Alle vee wat besmet word, sal gewoonlik vrek, en die broeiperiode voordat hulle siektetekens wys, kan baie lank wees.

TIPIESE SIEKTETEKENS VAN HONSDOLHEID BY BEESTE

Speekselvloei en neusuitloepsel is twee van die eerste siektetekens en kan dan ook verwar word met ander siektes soos bek-en-klousee. Die bees is aanvanklik wilder of aggressiewer as normaal, kan aanhoudend bulk, die hongergroef is leeg omdat die bees nie kan eet nie, en dit lyk of die bees aanhoudend druk soos 'n bees wat wil mis, maar niks kom uit nie. Die bees kan dan ook begin lam raak in

die agterlyf. Maar daar is ook gevalle wat baie minder siektetekens toon of waar diere selfs oormak voorkom, soos wat byvoorbeeld gesien word by wild wat aangetas is.



Speekselvloei en neusuitloepsel.



Bulk aanhoudend.

Kontak die staatsveearts of 'n privaat-veearts dadelik as hondsdolheid vermoed word sodat die dier uitgesit kan word en die brein ingestuur kan word vir diagnostiese bevestiging. Mense wat in direkte kontak met die speeksel van so 'n dier was, moet voorkomend ingeënt word met 'n reeks van gewoonlik vier opvolgentstowwe.

VROEË WAARSKUWING

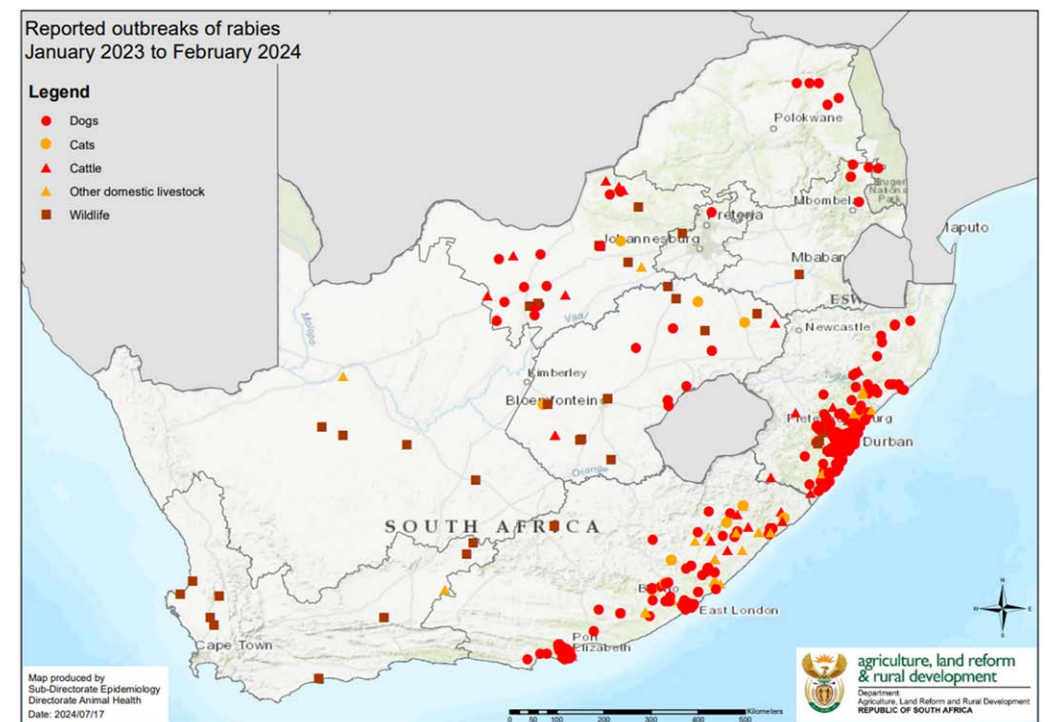
Die diere-entstowwe wat beskikbaar is teen hondsdolheid is ook baie doeltreffend vir vee, maar dit word nie gebruik in standaard-inentingsprogramme nie. Dit is dus uiters belangrik om presies te weet waar die siekte voorkom sodat omliggende plase gewaarsku kan word indien die siekte daar voorkom. **Inenting neem twee weke voordat die dier beskerm is, en daarom is voortydige optrede met die hulp van 'n werkende vroeë-waarskuwingstelsel nodig.**

Die siekterapporteringstelsel waaraan veeartse van die Herkouer Veeartsvereniging tans deelneem, vorm die basis van die vroeë-waarskuwingstelsel. Hieronder is die voorkoms van hondsdolheidgevalle by alle diersoorte soos in die vorige jaar deur staatsveeartse gerapporteer.

KONTAK JOU VEEARTS

Veeboere moenie onkant gevang word nie. Kontak jou veearts en maak seker jy is op die databasis waardeur vroeë waarskuwings uitgestuur word. Die tegnologie is nou ontwikkel en beskikbaar vir elke veearts en veeboer wat aan die stelsel wil deelneem.

Hondsdolheid is een van daardie siektes waarvoor voorkomend ingeënt moet word indien dit binne jou direkte omgewing voorkom. Ⓡ





PREDASIEBESTUUR

NVG WERP LIG OP VEEDIEFSTAL

deur

adv. P.W. Coetzer (Nasionale Vervolgingsgesag)

Hier, op rekord, is die Nasionale Vervolgingsgesag (NVG) se posisie oor veediefstal.



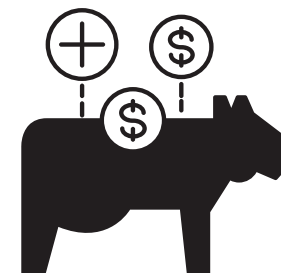
Volgens 'n brosjure wat deur die NVG gepubliseer is, word veediefstal ingevolge die Wet op Veediefstal (57 van 1959) en die Wet op die Identifikasie van Diere (6 van 2002) bestuur.

Die verkoop van of beskikking oor vee behels die volgende:

- Niemand mag vee verkoop of op enige wyse daarvoor beskik as die geregistreerde identifikasiemerk van die eienaar nie daarop verskyn nie [artikel 7(2) (b) van die Wet op die Identifikasie van Diere (6 van 2002)].
- Ontvangs van vee sonder 'n identifikasiemerk soos deur die

wet vereis, kan die ontvangs van vermoedelik gesteelde vee uitmaak; dit is 'n misdryf en kan onmiddellike inhegtenisneming tot gevolg hê [artikel 3 van die Wet op Veediefstal (57 van 1959)].

- Die verkoper moet aan die koper/ontvanger 'n artikel 6-dokument verskaf, wat 'n dokument van identifikasie genoem word [artikel 6(1) van die Wet op Veediefstal, 1959].
- Niemand mag aflewering van vee aanvaar sonder om 'n dokument van identifikasie ten tyde van die lewering te verkry nie, en sodanige dokument moet al die inligting bevat wat hieronder gespesifiseer word; daarsonder sal dit nie geag word 'n dokument van identifikasie te wees nie [artikel 6(2) van die Wet op Veediefstal, 1959].
- Die dokument van identifikasie moet die volgende inligting bevat, en dit is die verantwoordelikheid van die verkoper om toe te sien dat al die inligting in die dokument verstrek word [artikel 6(1) (a) van die Wet op Veediefstal, 1959]:
 - ✗ Volle name en adres van die verkoper en, indien die vee ten behoeve van die verkoper verkoop word, ook die volle name en adres van die persoon wat gemagtig is om die vee aldus te verkoop.



- ✗ Volle name en adres van die ontvanger van sodanige vee.
- ✗ Die datum waarop die vee verkoop of van die hand gesit is.
- ✗ Sertifisering dat die vee die eiendom van die verkoper is of dat die verteenwoordiger van die verkoper deur die verkoper gemagtig is om sodanige vee te verkoop of daarvoor te beskik.
- ✗ Die ras van die vee of die soort vee.
- ✗ Die aantal stuks vee.
- ✗ Die brandmerk, oormerk of tatoeëermerk op die vee.
- ✗ Indien die vee nie gemerk is nie, dan die geslag, aantal diere van elke geslag en die kleur van die vee.

- Die dokument van identifikasie moet vir minstens een jaar gehou word [artikel 6(3) van die Wet op Veediefstal, 1959].
- Enige persoon kan binne die tydperk hierbo vermeld, insae in sodanige dokument van identifikasie eis [artikel 6(4) van die Wet op Veediefstal, 1959].
- Die polisie kan 'n eienaar van vee beveel om sy of haar vee duidelik te merk indien die identifikasiemerk na die mening van die polisiebeampte onsigbaar of onduidelik is. Die eienaar moet binne 14 dae aan sodanige bevel voldoen [artikel 7(1) (c) van die Wet op die Identifikasie van Diere, 2002].
- Daar word aanbeveel dat die eienaar bewys van sy/haar geregistreerde identifikasiemerk by hom/haar hou en dit op versoek van die SAPD toon.
- Versuim om aan enigeen van bogenoemde bepalings te voldoen kan lei tot die ople van 'n boete of tot inhegtenisneming en vervolging in 'n strafhof. Ⓜ



RUBRIEK

Oordaad ook soms nodig

OM JOU KUDDE (EN SIEL) TE VOED



deur
Andries Wiese

Oordaad. Dis mos nou iets wat ons mense met oorgawe kan pleeg. Kerstes waar ons vooraf besluit om tog net nie weer te ooreet nie. Ten spyte van die voorneme kan ons beswaarlik van die tafel opstaan. Dan gryp jy nog so in die opstaan 'n laaste flenter iets uit 'n skottel. Elke keer as ons vriende 'n saamgooi-ete hou en elkeen iets bring sodat een persoon nie alles hoef te doen nie, is daar te veel. Dis om geld te bespaar in moeilike tye sonder om die kuier op te offer. Maar dan bring almal omtrent genoeg vir almal en oordaad gedy. Ons is te min vir die kos. Een mens kan nie 'n bottel brandewyn drink nie, maar twee mense kan drie drink...

Die teenpool van oordaad is natuurlik om terug te hou. Om minder te eet, soms glad nie, en so verloor ons dan 'n bietjie van die oordaad se nagevolge, 'n kilogram of twee, en voel minder skuldig. Maar dit is ook nie volhoubaar nie. Van blare en liefde alleen sal geen mens oorleef nie.

As ons dan nou so sukkel met onself, hoeveel te meer met ons kuddes? Ons is lief om te sê 'n dier is spekvat, en ons bedoel dit meestal ook as 'n kompliment. Onkundiges sal dikwels na 'n melkkudde kyk en merk hoe die koeie se heupbene sigbaar is. Dan word daar hardop gewonder hoe die arme dier so kan honger ly en steeds gemelk word.

Die sleutel is balans. Dieregesondheid en daarmee saam produktiwiteit en kostedoeltreffendheid is belangrike sleutels wanneer ons kuddes bestuur. Voeromset en die korrekte vordering vanaf geboorte tot verhandeling is dinge wat ons moet verstaan sodat ons die besigheid reg kan bestuur en voordelige besluite kan neem. Die waarheid is egter ook dat ons oordadig kan wees en geld mors. Voer is lankal nie meer goedkoop nie en jou winsmarge per kilogram is dalk heelwat minder as wat jy dink.

Versekering kan ook oordadig wees. Ek weet baie mense reken jy kan nooit genoeg of te veel versekering hê nie, maar hulle is verkeerd. In hierdie rubriek het ek al dikwels gesê dat 'n weldeurdatte en gebalanseerde versekeringsportefeulje koste-effektief moet waarde toevoeg tot jou besigheid en finansiële moet sin maak. As jy dit reg doen, beskerm jy jou boerdery en bates behoorlik en mors jy nie geld nie. Dit is maar soos om vee te voer: maak nie saak hoe wonderlik jou spesifieke voermengsel is nie, as jy te veel gee, mors jy en wen niks. Intendeel, jy kan dalk nog prys inboet by slag, bo en

behalwe die koste van die voer, omdat die diere te vet is. 'n Swak beplande versekeringsportefeulje gaan jou deurlopend geld kos en wanneer die skoot klap, kan jy dalk vind dat daar ook 'n prys te betaal is omdat jy nie opgelet het in die klas nie. Jy het bes moontlik dekking uitgeneem vir dinge wat nooit gaan gebeur op jou plaas nie, betaal vir voertuie wat jy nie meer besit nie, en 'n klomp dinge vir jou versekeraar gegee om te dek wat jy eintlik self verniet kan bestuur. Hoe nou?

Al die voersmouse in jou lewe is nie gelyk geskape nie. Daar is van hulle wat bloot die nuutste gier in oordaad aan jou wil verkoop, maar gelukkig weet jy dit hopelik en jaag hulle gepas van die plaas af. Een wat waarde toevoeg tot jou boerdery is sy gewig in goud werd. Hulle verstaan jou kudde, die uitkomst wat jy wil bereik, en hoe hulle produk 'n rol speel in daardie resultaat. Hulle weet dat hulle sakkie voer nie die enigste bestanddeel is nie en dat dit saam met die ander dinge moet werk om die beste moontlike uitkoms te verseker. Hulle weet ook dit help nie as die beste moontlike formule in 'n sak op die stoor se vloer lê en stof vergader nie. Die boer het nodig om op die regte tyd die regte hoeveelheid vir die regte diere te gee, anders kon jy werklik maar gelos het.


'n Makelaar wat sy sout werd is, sal jou boerdery verstaan, en een wat waarde toevoeg tot jou boerdery is sy gewig in goud werd. Hy of sy verstaan jou kudde, die uitkomst wat jy wil bereik, en hoe hulle moet bydra tot daardie resultaat. Hulle weet dat hulle polis nie die enigste bestanddeel is nie, en dat dit saam met die ander dinge moet werk om die beste moontlike uitkoms te verseker. Hulle weet ook dit help nie as die beste moontlike polis lê en stof vergader nie.

Die boer het nodig om op die regte tyd die regte hersienings te doen en vir die regte risiko's voorsiening te maak. Anders kon jy werklik maar gelos het.

'n Ander perspektief is ook dat 'n mens soms moet terughou, afskaal en matigheid aan die dag lê. My beste hou skool, en skoolvakansies is 'n wonderlike geleentheid vir haar om weer liefdevol, mens en uitstaanbaar te raak. Die terugstaan van die gejaag, en die laatlê, sonsit en tee wanneer jy lus is, doen wonder. Die terugstaan van die klas en skoolprogram bring weer nuwe perspektief. Legkaarte en boeklees bied stimulasie, maar sonder om jou kop te breek. En dan begin die skool weer en is dit hef aan.

Soms moet jy 'n intensiewe voer-program onderbreek en soms moet jy

terugstaan om risiko vanuit 'n afstand te betrag. Maar jy gaan weer moet inval en deel word van die werklikheid. Diere het 'n behoorlike voerprogram nodig om optimaal te funksioneer en te lewer wat jy verwag. Versekering is 'n wonderlike hulpmiddel om jou risiko te verskans en volhoubaarheid te verseker, maar jy moet jou hand daarop hou.

Jy hoef nie altyd jou hand op soetigheid te hou nie, maar soms is 'n koeksister diep lekker. Jy hoef nie altyd 'n vetterige staanrib vir aandete te kry nie, maar soms is dit manna uit die hemel. Jy hoef nie altyd oordadig te leef nie, maar soms kan jy maar nog ietsie skep. Onthou net om van tyd tot tyd terug te staan en perspektief op jou, jou mense en jou diere se voeding te kry: fisiek, maar ook geestelik. 



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CHAMPIONING HIGH HYGIENE STANDARDS IN SOUTH AFRICA'S RED MEAT INDUSTRY

by
Johan Herholdt

In South Africa, the red meat industry is a critical component of the agricultural sector, contributing significantly to the economy and providing essential nutrients to millions. However, the success of this industry hinges on the rigorous enforcement of hygiene standards, which is vital for ensuring public health and maintaining consumer trust. The Meat Safety Act (40 of 2000) sets forth essential national standards designed to safeguard meat safety from farm to table, a commitment that cannot be overstated.



Ensuring the highest animal handling and meat safety standards begins with comprehensive training. This training must be pervasive and up-to-date, equipping industry professionals with the knowledge and tools to execute their roles effectively. It is not just about adhering to regulations; it is about setting a gold standard in the industry that others aspire to reach.

Hygiene management programmes

in abattoirs are also paramount. The development and implementation of these programmes help minimise the risk of contamination and ensure that the meat that reaches consumers is safe, wholesome, and of the highest quality. These programmes are not static – they must evolve with advancements in technology and understanding of best practices. Furthermore, industry stakeholders must engage proactively with skills development frameworks.

By investing in ongoing education and training, the industry supports not just compliance but excellence and innovation in meat processing and safety.

Representation on forums related to the abattoir industry is equally important. Stakeholders must voice their interests and concerns, ensuring that the industry's needs and challenges are addressed in public policy and regulatory frameworks. This representation ensures that the standards set forth by the Meat Safety Act are implemented and optimised in response to the industry's practical realities.

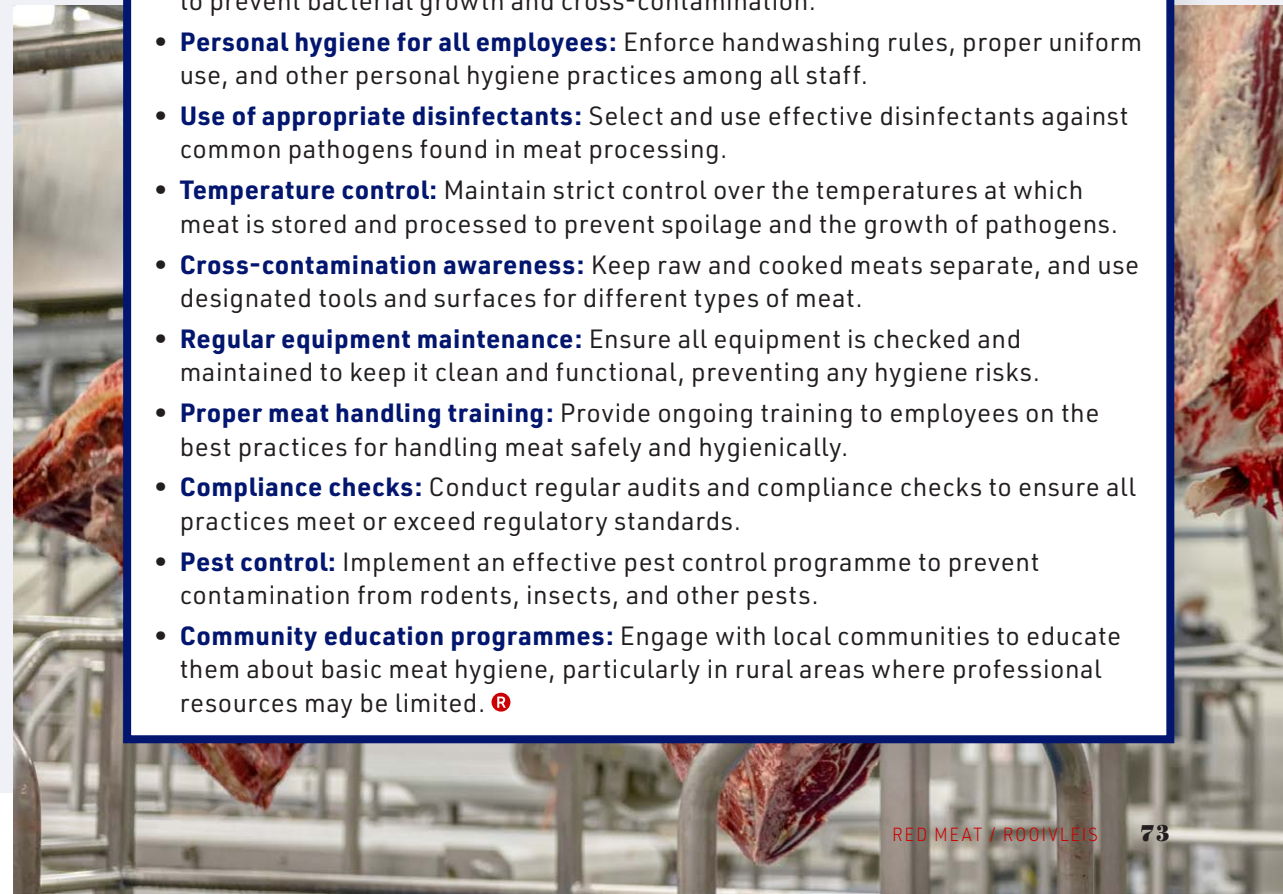
Lastly, enhancing meat hygiene awareness in rural communities is crucial for ensuring the health and safety of all consumers. Rural areas often face unique

challenges regarding resources and access to information. Initiatives aimed at these communities can significantly improve local practices, bolstering the meat supply chain's overall quality and safety.

In summary, the red meat industry must continue championing these meat safety and quality pillars. The industry protects and propels itself by promoting safety standards, providing essential training, developing hygiene management programmes, actively participating in industry forums, and enhancing community awareness. As we look to the future, let us commit to these principles, ensuring that the South African red meat industry remains a global beacon of quality and safety.

HYGIENE TIPS:

- **Regular disinfection schedules:** Establish and adhere to strict cleaning routines to prevent bacterial growth and cross-contamination.
- **Personal hygiene for all employees:** Enforce handwashing rules, proper uniform use, and other personal hygiene practices among all staff.
- **Use of appropriate disinfectants:** Select and use effective disinfectants against common pathogens found in meat processing.
- **Temperature control:** Maintain strict control over the temperatures at which meat is stored and processed to prevent spoilage and the growth of pathogens.
- **Cross-contamination awareness:** Keep raw and cooked meats separate, and use designated tools and surfaces for different types of meat.
- **Regular equipment maintenance:** Ensure all equipment is checked and maintained to keep it clean and functional, preventing any hygiene risks.
- **Proper meat handling training:** Provide ongoing training to employees on the best practices for handling meat safely and hygienically.
- **Compliance checks:** Conduct regular audits and compliance checks to ensure all practices meet or exceed regulatory standards.
- **Pest control:** Implement an effective pest control programme to prevent contamination from rodents, insects, and other pests.
- **Community education programmes:** Engage with local communities to educate them about basic meat hygiene, particularly in rural areas where professional resources may be limited. 



RIFT VALLEY FEVER:

A potential new way to detect specific antibodies

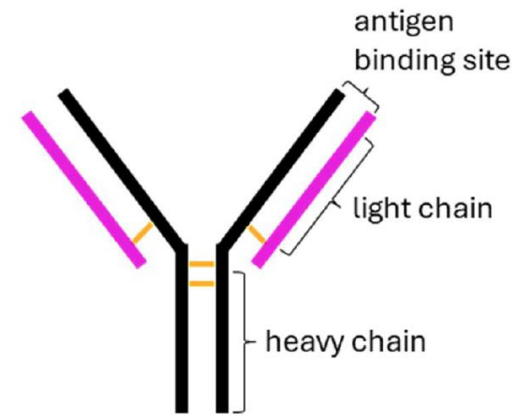


by
MR Maluleke and T Tshabalala

Detecting viral infections in livestock is critical for maintaining animal health and preventing disease outbreaks. A key player in this process is the enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), a powerful diagnostic tool that measures the presence of antibodies produced by the immune system in response to a virus. At the Agricultural Research Council – Onderstepoort Veterinary Research (ARC-OVR), scientists have developed an innovative ELISA test for Rift Valley fever virus (RVFV), a serious threat to cattle and sheep. This new test leverages a recombinant glycoprotein to enhance accuracy and reliability, marking a significant advancement in veterinary diagnostics.

During a viral infection, the body's humoral immune system responds by producing antibodies (Figure 1). The function of antibodies is to recognise the unwanted pathogens, such as viruses, by binding to them and alerting the immune system to assist in destroying the invading pathogens.

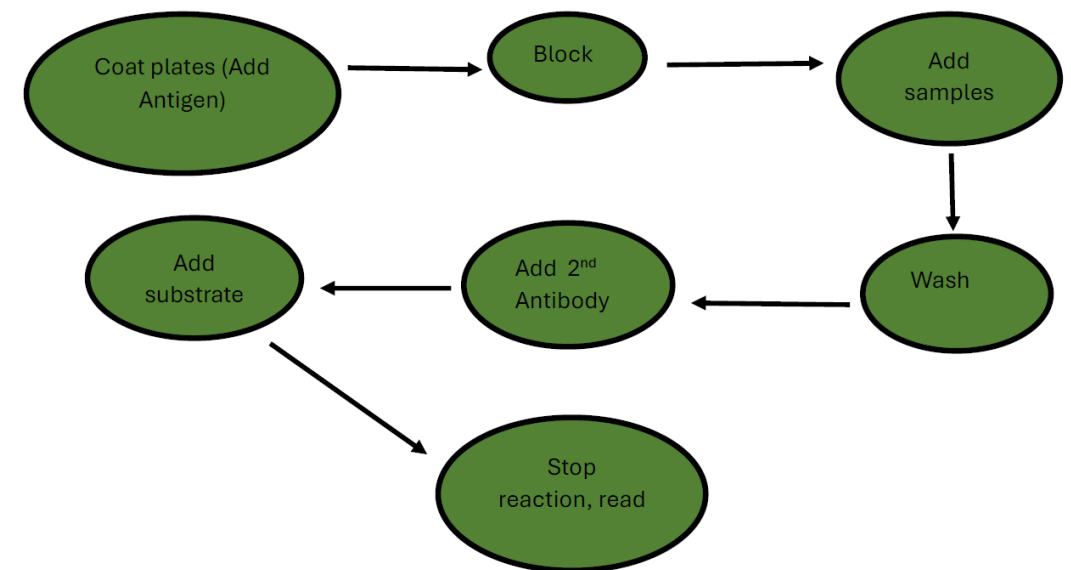
Figure 1 Structure of an antibody



The diagnostic test used to detect the antibodies against a specific virus or vaccine is called an ELISA. During the ELISA test, the antibodies interact with the protein originating from the virus (called an antigen) located on a solid surface of a polystyrene multiwell plate (Figure 2). It is, thus, a useful tool to detect the immune response of an animal against a vaccine or natural infection by determining the number of antibodies specific to the vaccine or infection.

This project, undertaken at the ARC-OVR, was aimed at the development and validation of an RVFV recombinant N-terminal glycoprotein-based ELISA test for the diagnosis of RVFV infection in cattle and sheep. The project was funded by Red Meat Research and Development (RMRD). Glycoproteins are the most exposed components of the virus and responsible for virus attachment and penetration on the host cells. Although an ELISA test for RVFV detection in animals is currently available, it is based on the detection of nucleoproteins, since they are the dominant viral proteins, and

Figure 2 Flowchart of an ELISA test



not the glycoproteins. The recombinant glycoprotein-based ELISA test developed during this study will be the first to utilise this specific viral protein.

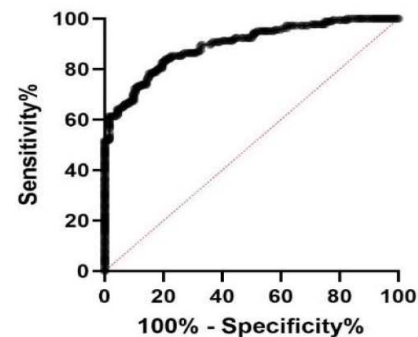
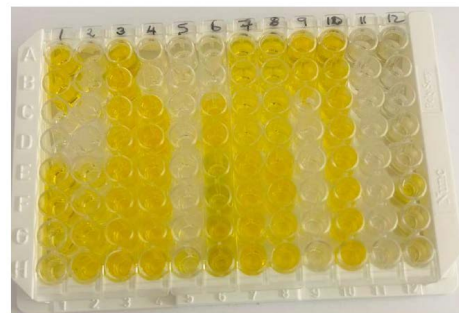
The current ELISA test performed at the ARC-OVR as part of their diagnostic services is based on the recombinant nucleoprotein (rN) as an antigen. This antigen was cloned and expressed in a prokaryotic bacterial system. The antigen expressed in bacterial systems may result in incorrect protein folding, leading to insoluble or aggregated proteins and endotoxin accumulation. The newly developed ELISA uses recombinant glycoprotein (rGn) as an antigen and has been cloned and expressed in a eukaryotic yeast system. The yeast system is a powerful tool for studying the expression and analysis of eukaryotic proteins. The system also produces correct protein folding and allows post-translational modifications such as glycosylation, required by some proteins.

As part of this research, the amino (N) terminal of the glycoprotein (Gn) was cloned and expressed in the yeast system. The resulting recombinant protein (rGn) was used as an antigen to coat the ELISA plate (Figure 3A). A total of 184 sera samples from bovine and ovine sources that tested either positive or negative using the current ELISA were used to develop the new ELISA. Half of this number (92) was classified as positive (tested positive), while the other half was classified as negative (tested negative).

The receiver operator curve (ROC) analysis was used to select the optimal cut-off values and to estimate the diagnostic sensitivity and specificity of this ELISA test (Figure 3B). The best combination of sensitivity and specificity with a 95% confidence interval was used to investigate the cut-off value for the ELISA.

The ROC curve provides a simple graphical means of evaluating sensitivity and specificity. The curve also indicates the possibility of every possible cut-off value for a test or combination of tests. The area under the curve gives an idea about the benefit of using the test in question. If the area under the ROC curve is close to 1,00, it is an indication of a relevant test and the ability of the test to correctly differentiate negatives from positives.

Figure 3 a) An example of an ELISA plate with results; b) ROC generated from negative and positive RVFV sera samples



This is the first study to produce RVFV recombinant Gn protein as an antigen that can be used in an ELISA test to distinguish RVFV-positive sera from RVFV-negative sera. The test could be useful in the diagnosis of Rift Valley fever disease in livestock since it does not need a special containment laboratory to produce the antigen. [®]



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The perfect steak

- are we there yet?



Insights from Professor Phillip Strydom's inaugural lecture



In an enlightening inaugural lecture titled "The perfect steak – are we there yet?", Professor Phillip Strydom from the Department of Animal Sciences in the Faculty of Agri Sciences at Stellenbosch University shed light on the multifaceted nature of meat science and the importance of quality in meat production.

by
Fidelis Zvomuya

Professor Strydom began by discussing his extensive research, which spans over three and a half decades. His work has concentrated on the various factors affecting meat quality and yield, primarily in beef, but also extending to sheep, pork, and chicken. "The miracle of producing good-quality meat lies in the combination of many intricate processes along the value chain that need careful coordination," Prof. Strydom explained. He noted this complexity initially drew him to the field

and has kept him engaged ever since.

He emphasised that meat science is not a single discipline but a combination of genetics, nutrition, biochemistry, chemistry, and physiology. This multidisciplinary approach is crucial for understanding both what consumers see in the shop and what they experience at home, ultimately influencing their purchasing decisions.

Addressing the relevance of his work, Prof. Strydom highlighted the economic pressures faced by South Africa's meat industry, which often prioritises



efficiency and quantity over quality. He advocated for a value-chain approach, echoing Robert Mondavi's philosophy, "You can make bad wine with great grapes, but you can't make great wine with bad grapes." Applying this to meat production, Prof. Strydom stressed that high-quality inputs are essential for producing superior meat products.

Prof. Strydom also discussed the significant changes brought about by the deregulation of South Africa's meat industry in 1992. This shift allowed the feedlot industry to flourish, dramatically changing the ratio of pasture to feedlot cattle slaughtering. While this increased the supply of beef, it also led to a focus on efficiency over quality, presenting challenges for maintaining high product standards.

"The technology to improve quality is prioritised, but the understanding of the processes involved in producing quality meat is often neglected," Prof. Strydom noted. This gap in knowledge and practice can result in poor-quality meat reaching consumers.

For sustainable meat production, Professor Strydom emphasised the importance of balancing efficiency with quality. He argued that South African consumers should not only focus on the affordability of meat but also consider safety, nutritional value, visual quality, and taste. Quality management is crucial for preventing product loss and maintaining technological properties of meat, such as water-holding capacity.

Despite the challenges in higher education and research funding, Prof. Strydom finds motivation in the recognition and appreciation of individuals in the meat industry who value research and continue to invest in improving processes. He particularly enjoys hands-on research with postgraduate students, as these experiences provide practical insights that go beyond theoretical knowledge.

In a surprising personal revelation, Prof. Strydom shared that he consumes very little meat, preferring good-quality French cheese over a rump steak or lamb chop. When he does eat meat, he values quality over quantity, focusing on taste rather than satiety.

Outside of his professional life, Prof. Strydom enjoys cycling and camping, activities that help him stay connected with nature and maintain both physical and mental health. Although back problems have limited his running, he remains active and engaged with the natural world. [®]



Stuffed fillet

Inspired by: Ernest Makua

Whole fillet, stuffed with anything and, wrapped in bacon – guaranteed to be a good eating experience always

Yield: 6-8 servings // Prep time: 15 min // Cooking time: 30 mins + 35 mins marinating // Total time: 50 mins

BEEF

- 2 tablespoons Sunflower oil
- 1 tablespoon Balsamic vinegar
- 1 tablespoon Soya sauce
- 1 ½ kg Beef fillet, trimmed
- 1 teaspoon Salt
- 1 tablespoon Olive oil
- 1 tablespoon Gelatine
- 1 cup Crumbly feta cheese
- ⅓ cup Sun-dried tomatoes, thinly sliced
- 1 teaspoon Fresh rosemary, removed from stem, finely chopped
- 500 g Rindless streaky bacon

METHOD

1. Mix the oil, balsamic vinegar and soya sauce together until it creates a thick emulsion. Place the fillet in a container and rub the marinade over the fillet. Leave to stand about 30 minutes.
2. Preheat the oven to 200° C. Remove the fillet from the container and place on a cutting board. Use a sharp knife and make a slice lengthways along the fillet, and butterfly cut the fillet, so it folds out like a book. Flatten the meat slightly so that it is level and easy to stuff.
3. Season the inside of the fillet and drizzle with a little oil. Sprinkle the dry gelatine on the fillet and leave to sit a couple of minutes (the gelatine prevents the filling from falling out when fillet is sliced)
4. Mix the feta cheese and the sundried tomatoes, add the finely chopped rosemary. Smear the filling on to the one cut side of the fillet and close the fillet making sure the filling is contained inside the slit.
5. On a rectangle of greaseproof paper, arrange the bacon slices overlapping so that the fatty side is against the paper. Lay the fillet parcel on top of the bacon.
6. Stretch bacon around the roll and secure with strong toothpicks.
7. Turn best side up and lay it on a big baking sheet. Bake for 35 minutes. Leave to cool. Remove skewers and slice into 1 cm thick slices and arrange on a platter.
8. Garnish with fresh herbs and serve with wholegrain mustard and baby potatoes.

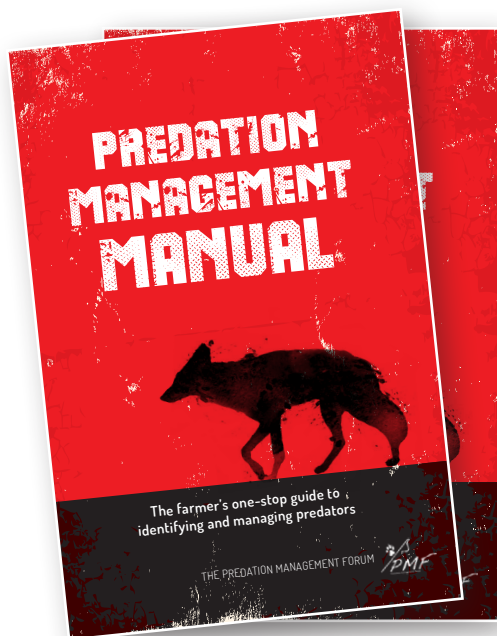
Recipes developed by Gerrie Du Rand @g_loves_red // Styling by Caro Alberts @caroalberts // Photography by Michelle Parkin @michelleparkinphotography

USEFUL MANUAL ON PREDATION MANAGEMENT

The Predation Management Forum (PMF) has released a comprehensive manual on integrated predation management.

This manual is a one-stop guide that will help producers to identify the predator problem on their farms, and find the best method of managing it, within the framework of provincial and national legislation.

Integrated predation management – a comprehensive toolbox consisting of preventive and remedial control measures – is essential. Farmers should take note of all the legal methods of controlling predation. There is no single technique that will solve the whole predation problem, but by combining all the possible methods the farmer can achieve success.



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The manual is available in electronic format at http://www.pmf.co.za/images/news/Manual_Engels.pdf. For more information on the manual, contact Bonita Francis at the NWGA Head Office in Port Elizabeth: 041 365 5030.

