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**Grain SA deeply disappointed by JSE
decision to reject soybean Multiple**

**Husker Scientists Pioneer Breakthrough
Swine Vaccine Innovation**

El Niño Is Coming

Auctions

KRAGDAG success 2026

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Editor's Note

Preparing Today for the Season Ahead



As winter begins to loosen its grip and the first signs of spring appear across our farms, August gives us an important opportunity: the chance to prepare.

Farming has always demanded the ability to think beyond today. A good farmer looks at the veld and considers what it will provide in the months ahead; looks at a breeding animal and thinks about next season's calf or lamb; checks a water point before it runs dry; and builds feed reserves before they are desperately needed.

That spirit of preparation is at the heart of this month's FARMhere.

In this issue, we focus strongly on livestock management as we move from winter towards spring and the 2026/27 production season. We look at preparing herds and flocks for the critical months ahead, managing the transition from dry winter veld to spring grazing, getting breeding animals ready for the coming breeding season, planning feed and fodder reserves, and developing an effective parasite-control strategy before warmer conditions increase the challenge.

None of these decisions stands alone. Nutrition influences reproduction. Grazing management affects body condition. Water availability influences animal performance. Parasite burdens can quietly reduce productivity. And the decisions made now can influence conception rates, growth, weaning weights and ultimately the profitability of the farming enterprise months from today.

South African farmers understand better than most that we cannot control every variable. Rainfall, temperatures and markets will always bring uncertainty. What we can control is how well prepared we are when conditions change.

So, as we head towards another spring, use this time wisely. Walk through your camps. Assess your veld. Check your water infrastructure. Evaluate the condition of your animals. Review your vaccination and parasite-control programmes. Examine your feed reserves and breeding plans.

Small, well-timed management decisions today can prevent expensive problems tomorrow.

May the season ahead bring renewed growth to our veld, strength to our herds and flocks, and fresh optimism to farming families across South Africa.

Here's to preparing well, farming wisely and looking forward with confidence.

Lizelle Little

Editor | FARMhere can also make this slightly more personal and heartfelt, while retaining the professional agricultural-magazine tone.



What Is the Meaning of Life?

One of humanity's greatest questions is, "What is the meaning of life?" or "What am I supposed to do with my life?" God's Word gives a clear answer. We were created by God, for God, to know Him, to glorify Him, and to follow Jesus Christ. Our identity is not found in our occupation, achievements, wealth, or status. Those things may be part of our journey, but they are not our purpose. Our purpose is found in Christ.

The Bible teaches that every person is intentionally created by God. **Genesis 1:27** (NLT) says, "*So God created human beings in his own image.*" Because we bear God's image, our lives have eternal value and a divine purpose.

When people ask what they should do with their lives, Jesus gives the answer. He calls us to follow Him and to help others follow Him. Before returning to heaven, Jesus commissioned every believer:

Matthew 28:19–20 (NLT): "*Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations...*"

This calling is not reserved for pastors, missionaries, or church leaders. It is the calling of every believer. Whether you are a mechanic, teacher, farmer, nurse, cleaner, business owner, CEO, student, or parent, your workplace becomes your mission field. God has placed you where you are so that His love, truth, and hope can be seen through your life.

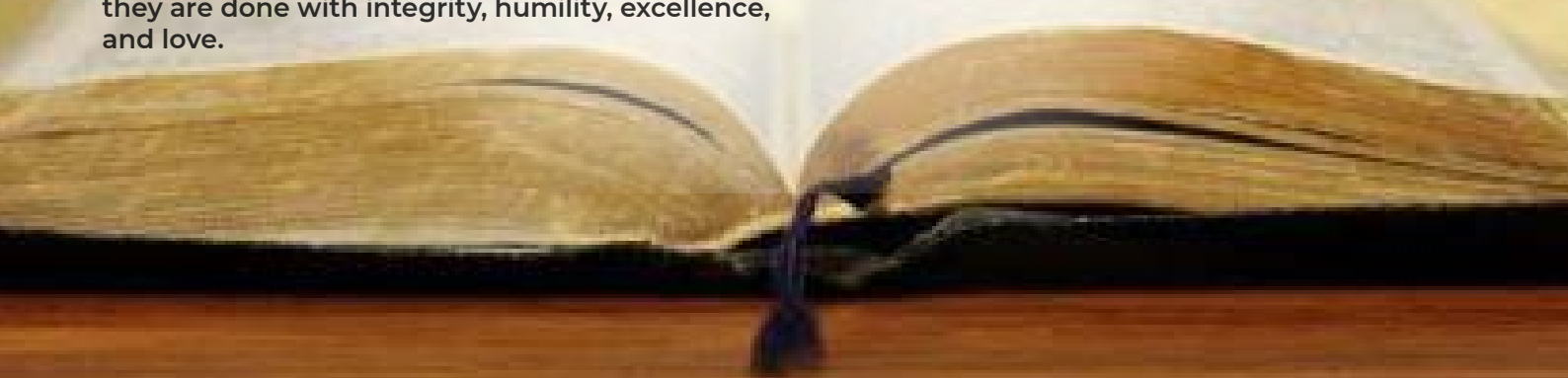
Our daily work becomes an act of worship when it is done for Christ. **Colossians 3:23–24** (NLT) reminds us, "*Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.*" Washing dishes, repairing machinery, serving customers, raising children, or leading a company can all glorify God when they are done with integrity, humility, excellence, and love.

Jesus also calls His followers to be a visible testimony in a dark world. **Matthew 5:16** (NLT) says, "*Let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.*" Our actions should point people to Christ. Kindness, forgiveness, honesty, compassion, and faithfulness often open the door for us to share the gospel with those around us.

God has also entrusted believers with the ministry of reconciliation. **2 Corinthians 5:20** (NLT) declares, "*So we are Christ's ambassadors.*" An ambassador represents the one who sent him. Every Christian represents Jesus wherever they go—in their home, office, workshop, classroom, farm, shop, or community.

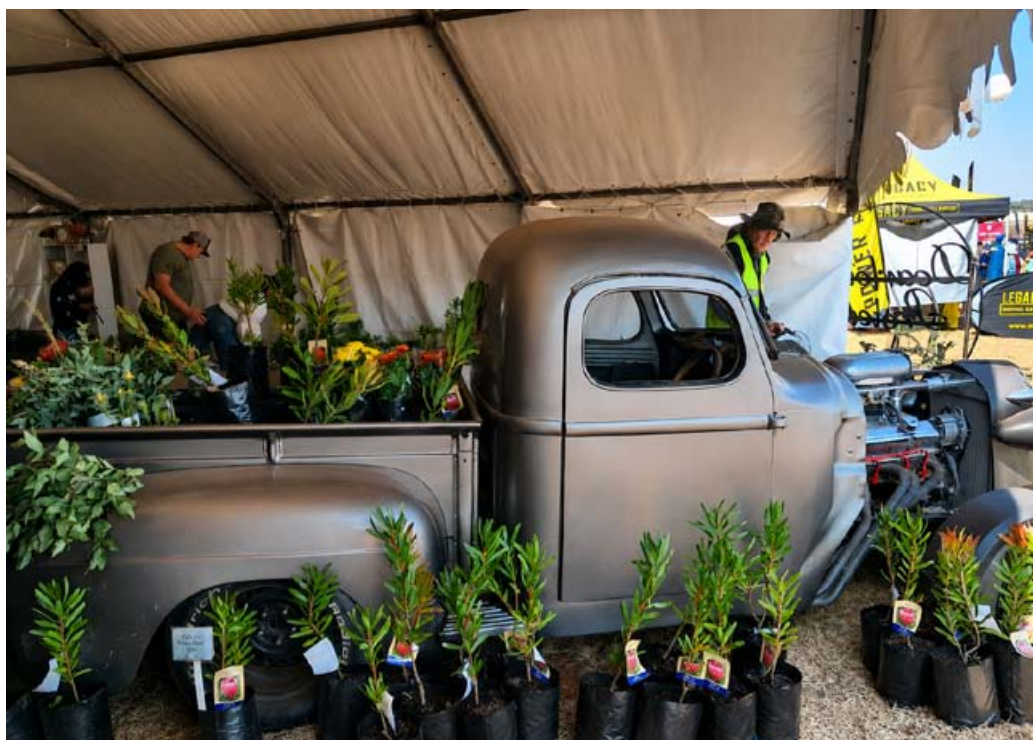
Jesus promised that His followers would receive power to fulfil this mission. **Acts 1:8** (NLT) says, "*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses...*" We are not expected to fulfil God's calling through our own strength. The Holy Spirit equips us, guides us, and gives us boldness to share the Good News.

Following Jesus is more than attending church on Sundays. It is a lifelong commitment to love Him, obey His Word, serve others, and proclaim His gospel until He returns. Every conversation, every decision, and every opportunity can become a chance to reflect Christ to a world that desperately needs Him. The meaning of life is not found in what we accumulate but in whom we follow. Our greatest purpose is to know Jesus, make Him known, and faithfully serve Him every day of our lives. Until the day He returns, may we remain faithful to His command, living as His disciples and inviting others to become His disciples as well.



Kragdag: 8 August 2026

New KragDag Self-Reliance Guide Aims to Help Families Take Their First Step Towards Greater Self-Reliance



KragDag and Lex Libertas launched the KragDag Self-Reliance Guide – a practical workbook designed to help households, families, farmers and entrepreneurs chart their own path towards greater self-reliance.

The guide has been compiled as a long-term resource to help readers assess their current circumstances, explore potential solutions and develop a personalised plan for the future.

The launch marks the culmination of three days of discussions in the KragDag Kopskuif Studio. Topics included responsible stewardship; freedom and identity and the role of culture in self-determination; local

challenges; security; education; wealth creation; local governance; taxation; a conservative revival; and alternative media.

The Self-Reliance Guide brings many of these principles together in a practical workbook that enables readers to identify and take their next step towards greater self-reliance.

The 21-page guide was developed around KragDag's 2026 theme, "Drops become streams. Streams become rivers." It includes practical sections covering education and skills development, energy, water, food production and food security, housing and DIY projects, security, and financial self-reliance.

Each chapter contains self-assessments, checklists, worksheets, practical tips and questions that readers can use to compare possible solutions and make informed decisions. The guide concludes with a personal



self-reliance plan, enabling readers to formulate concrete goals for the next twelve months.

According to Dr Ernst Roets, Chief Executive Officer of Lex Libertas, the guide is not intended to be prescriptive, but rather to help people take responsibility for their own future.

«"Lex Libertas's primary objective is to promote a viable political dispensation for the communities of South Africa. The most important step towards achieving this is not some form of parliamentary intervention, but



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for families and communities to function independently by taking ownership of their own freedom. We must fill the political vacuum in South Africa by taking responsibility ourselves. This is why this guide is so important. It helps people, wherever they live, to lay the proverbial bricks.”»

HP Steyn, Head of Management at KragDag, says the guide is a natural extension of what KragDag has represented for nearly two decades.

«“KragDag has always been more than an expo. It is a place where people discover ideas, ask questions and find practical solutions. The Self-Reliance Guide takes that conversation further. We hope it becomes a workbook that families return to time and again when planning their next step. Self-reliance is not built through one major decision, but through many small decisions that gain momentum over time.”»

The guide emphasises that there is no single model for self-reliance. Every household, farm, business and community has its own unique circumstances, resources and objectives. The focus is therefore not on prescribing what people must do, but rather on equipping them to make responsible, informed decisions that are appropriate to their own circumstances.

As part of the guide, readers are also encouraged to use KragDag’s exhibitor list as a starting point for identifying suppliers of relevant products and services and for further investigating practical solutions after the expo has concluded.

The guide has therefore been designed as a practical reference resource that will remain useful to households, farmers, businesses and communities long after KragDag 2026.



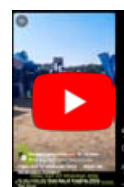
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Grain SA deeply disappointed by JSE decision to reject soybean Multiple Reference Point model



20 July 2026

Grain SA is deeply disappointed by, and disagrees with, the decision by the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) not to retain the Multiple Reference Point (MRP) model for calculating soybean location differentials and to revert to a single reference point system.

The JSE's decision is set out in its **Market Notice on the outcome of the Multiple Reference Points Model pilot**.

For several years, the JSE called on industry stakeholders to propose credible alternatives to the existing single reference point methodology, which does not accurately account for the geographic variation in soybean demand. Grain SA, together with independent scientists and technical specialists, invested significant time and resources in developing and testing an alternative methodology supported by independent scientific research, market data and practical analysis. This methodology sought to achieve a more equitable and accurate matching of demand to supply.

The MRP model was subsequently piloted on the deliverable soybean futures contract over two marketing seasons. At the beginning of the pilot, the JSE confirmed that the model would be assessed against five predetermined criteria and that

a technical committee nominated by industry role-players would review the model based on the following:

1. Trading activity, including volumes and open interest;
2. The number of active market participants;
3. The management and accumulation of stock in zero-differential areas;
4. The redelivery of JSE silo receipts; and
5. Stakeholder feedback and market experience.

Grain SA understands that the recommendations of this technical committee apparently were not adequately reflected in the final decision-making process or supporting motivation.

Grain SA is concerned that the JSE's final decision and motivation do not provide sufficient and transparent, criterion-by-criterion reasoning against the agreed evaluation framework.

The JSE acknowledged that trading volumes, open interest and physical deliveries improved during the pilot period. However, it concluded that these improvements resulted from external market conditions and that no causal relationship with the MRP model could be demonstrated.

Grain SA believes that the available quantitative evidence must be assessed fully and should not be

obscured by recent changes to the contract size or dismissed solely because causality could not conclusively be isolated.

The final notice instead places significant emphasis on challenges relating to the availability of accurate soybean crushing data, differences between crushing facilities, the use of historical information, transparency and divergent views among stakeholders.

While these considerations may warrant further investigation, Grain SA believes they do not constitute a sufficiently detailed or factual explanation of how the model performed against all five of the JSE's original success criteria.

The concentration of soybean processing capacity and the resulting imbalance in market power also contribute to information asymmetry. Where critical market information is held by a limited number of participants, producers are placed at a disadvantage and the transparency and competitiveness of the market may be compromised.

Information asymmetry remains a serious concern

Grain SA remains particularly concerned about the inability to obtain the information necessary for the accurate and effective

calculation of soybean location differentials.

Relevant sensitive information is already collected through statutory measures under the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act. Both historical and current information could be accessed, in an appropriately aggregated and confidential form, to support a more comprehensive assessment.

The JSE states that confidential supply-and-demand information could not be disclosed because of commercial sensitivity and POPIA-related considerations and consequently used dated information. However, Grain SA emphasises that there are appropriate mechanisms that could have been considered through which independently verified information could be submitted confidentially to the JSE without disclosing commercially sensitive company-level data as is the case with statutory measures.

The existing single reference point methodology also relies on historical information, which raises questions about whether the data limitations identified by the JSE were applied consistently when comparing the two methodologies.

Confidential information is already used in several regulated market processes. The absence of an appropriate data-sharing mechanism should therefore not, in Grain SA's view, automatically disqualify a methodology that was specifically developed to address recognised shortcomings in the existing system.

Producers already have limited access to cash-market basis information. When essential market information is concentrated among a small number of value-chain participants, producers cannot independently assess whether location differentials accurately reflect commercial market conditions.

Grain SA is also disappointed that the final notice does not adequately address the concerns raised by Prof Roberts, who was appointed by the JSE as an expert consultant. These concerns included zero-differential delivery points and the inability of producers to arbitrage differences between locations.

Decision appears disproportionately influenced by qualitative opinion

Stakeholder feedback was only one of the five criteria established for evaluating the pilot. Grain SA is therefore concerned that qualitative perceptions - including claims that the methodology was not sufficiently simple or easily understood - appear to have carried disproportionate weight relative to the model's quantitative performance.

A methodology should not be rejected merely because it is more sophisticated than the existing system. The appropriate test should be whether it is scientifically sound, objectively measurable, operationally implementable and capable of producing a more equitable market outcome.

Grain SA submitted factual information demonstrating that the MRP model could operate efficiently and that the methodology represented a meaningful improvement in addressing the distortions associated with a single reference point.

The organisation therefore views the decision as insufficiently balanced and not adequately supported by a transparent assessment of the available evidence.

Producers cannot absorb further market inefficiencies

Grain and oilseed producers are operating under severe financial pressure, with narrow margins, rising input costs and substantial

production risk. They cannot afford additional inefficiencies resulting from a location differential methodology that may not adequately reflect the geographic distribution of soybean production and consumption.

A single reference point can create artificial transport assumptions and expose producers in certain production regions to deductions that do not correspond with actual commercial stock movements.

It may also create opportunities for value-chain role players to abuse market powers for their own benefit. These distortions become particularly concerning where concentrated market power and access to information could influence physical delivery patterns and basis formation to their advantage.

These distortions become particularly concerning in a market characterised by concentrated processing capacity and unequal access to commercial information.

The JSE has announced its intention to return to a single reference point and has proposed replacing Randfontein with Driefontein from the marketing season commencing on 1 March 2027. Market participants have been invited to comment on this proposal by 14 August 2026.

Grain SA cannot support the proposed return to a single reference point, nor the relocation of that reference point, without a comprehensive and transparent assessment of the potential financial consequences for producers across all soybean-producing regions.

Grain SA will submit detailed comments on the proposal and will continue to advocate for a location differential methodology that is transparent, evidence-based and equitable to all market participants.

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58 ZUID STRAAT

Farmers are going digital and it's changing how agriculture works

For decades, farming has been built around physical things you can see and touch: land, machinery, storage systems, and long-standing relationships with suppliers and buyers. Those things still matter, but another layer is increasingly being added to the mix: digital platforms that enable farmers to buy inputs, secure finance and make everyday decisions more efficiently.

What stands out is not just that these tools exist, but how quickly they are being adopted in practical, everyday farming operations.

South Africa already has the basic building blocks for this shift. Mobile phone use is almost universal, smartphones are widespread and, according to World Bank research, just short of 80% of the population now has internet access. In agriculture, digital tools are already helping farmers source inputs, compare, get advice, and access financial services. Earlier research suggested that only about 26% of smallholder farmers were using digital technologies, but that number is rising as these tools become more useful and more accessible.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) says that a major driver behind this shift is the increasing pressure on farmers



to improve productivity while managing greater uncertainty. Agricultural businesses are operating in an environment of continuing input cost pressures, tighter margins, increasingly volatile weather patterns and fluctuating commodity prices. At the same time, customers and financiers are placing greater emphasis on efficiency, traceability and sustainability.

These factors are making timely, data-driven decision-making far more important than it was even a decade ago. Digital platforms help farmers respond by improving access to market information, increasing price transparency and streamlining purchasing and financing decisions. We have seen this firsthand through the collaboration between Nedbank Agribusiness and online agri-input marketplace, PrysWys. Launched in May last year, the partnership was designed to close a very real gap in agriculture: the disconnect between buying inputs and paying for them.

Through the PrysWys platform, farmers can request quotes,

compare prices, place orders, and access pre-approved financing for key inputs such as fertiliser, seed, livestock feed, and fuel. The platform is helping to simplify how farmers buy what they need by connecting them directly with trusted suppliers at competitive prices. That improves price discovery, transparency and makes inputs more accessible, especially in areas where availability can be a challenge.

The early results have been encouraging and, since its launch, the Nedbank partnership has seen an 80% increase in users. This suggests that digital activity is translating into real financial decisions, and that farmers are becoming more comfortable managing parts of their businesses online – not as a side activity, but as part of how they operate. As adoption grows, digital platforms have the potential to improve not only access to inputs and finance, but also the efficiency, transparency and competitiveness of the agricultural value chain as a whole.

Importantly, this move to digital is not about replacing existing relationships in agriculture. Farmers still rely heavily on agronomists, advisers, and long-standing supplier networks. What's changing is that they now have more tools alongside those relationships – tools that help them compare options, save time, and make quicker decisions.

Banks are also changing how they fit into this picture. Rather than only stepping in when finance is needed, financial institutions are increasingly becoming part of the systems farmers already use. That means embedding finance directly into platforms like PrysWys so that funding is available at the point of purchase, not as a separate process.

As more agricultural transactions move onto digital platforms, they

also generate a richer picture of how farm businesses operate. Over time, this can give financial institutions a better understanding of farm businesses, enabling more tailored financial solutions, faster credit decisions and more responsive risk management. In this way, digital agriculture is not only changing how farmers buy inputs, but also how financial institutions assess and support agricultural businesses.

There are still real challenges to resolve. Not all farming areas have reliable connectivity, and levels of digital confidence vary widely. If digital agriculture is going to work for everyone, those gaps will need attention.

But the direction is clear. Farmers are no longer experimenting with digital tools; they are incorporating them into the way they manage

risk, control costs and grow their businesses. As these platforms become more connected, they have the potential to create a more efficient, transparent and financially inclusive agricultural ecosystem that benefits producers, suppliers and financiers alike. The future of agriculture will always depend on the land. Increasingly, however, it will also depend on the digital systems that help farmers make better decisions, improve profitability and build more resilient businesses.

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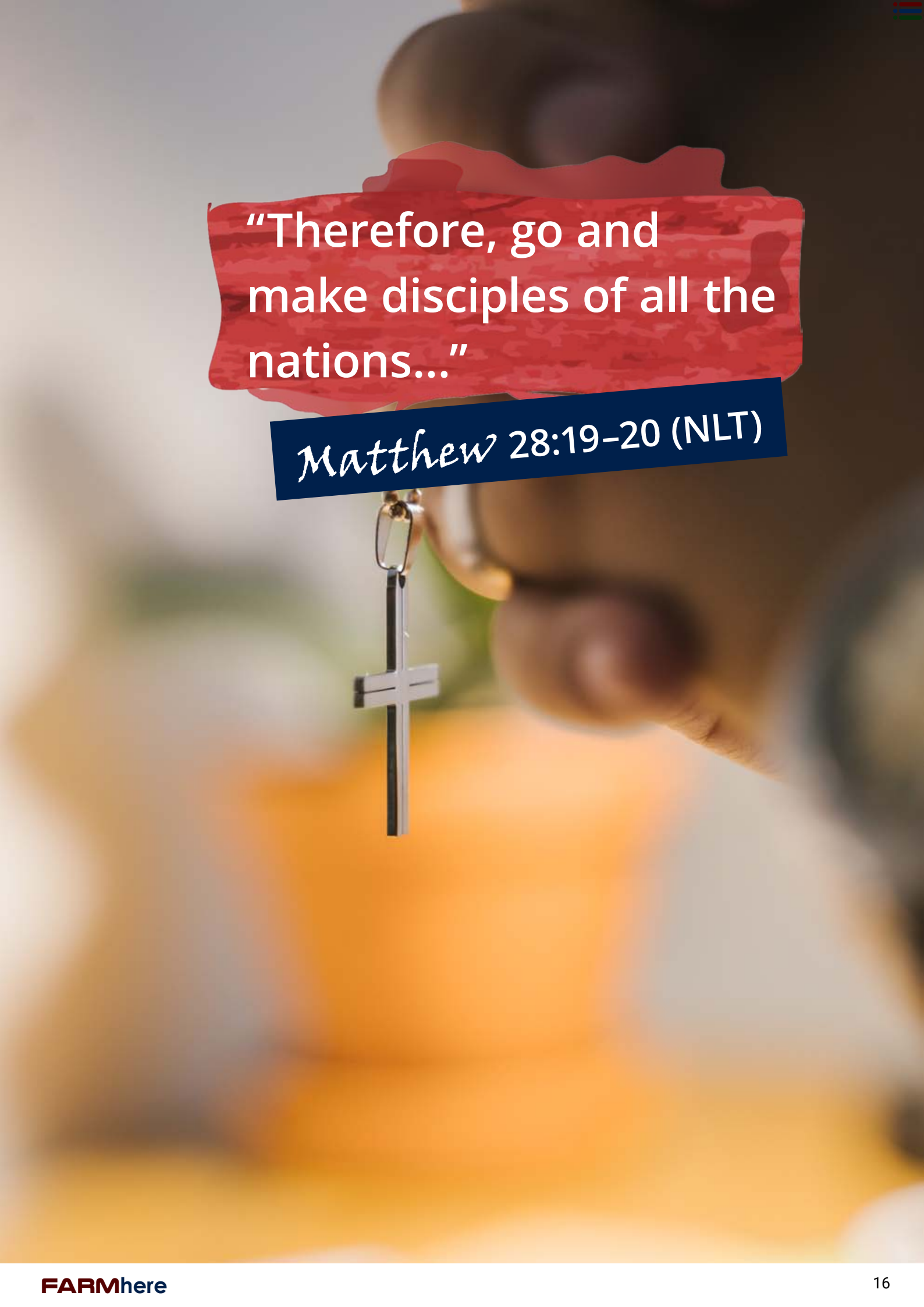
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Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)



Husker Scientists Pioneer Breakthrough Swine Vaccine Innovation

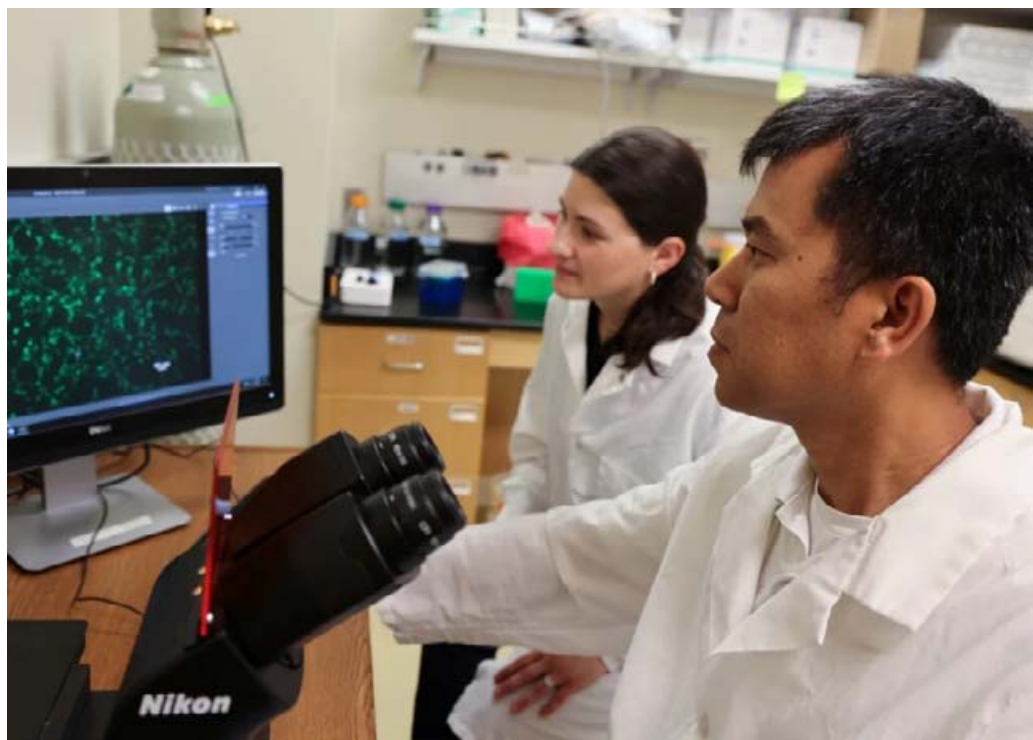
A newly developed lipid nanoparticle platform offers a rapid, cost-effective defense against rapidly mutating cross-species flu viruses.

Husker scientists have developed a new swine influenza vaccination technique whose low cost and adaptability can greatly strengthen disease protection. This progress, part of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln’s overall focus on livestock vaccination innovation, directly benefits the state’s \$5 billion, 3.6 million-head swine sector.

The new vaccination approach, explained in a recent peer-reviewed paper in *npj Vaccines*, encases DNA into fat-like microscopic carriers, called lipid nanoparticles, that are then injected into pigs’ muscle tissue. A single dose released DNA that generated strong antibody responses within seven to 14 days.

Previous DNA-focused vaccine approaches described in academic literature failed to generate such strong protective responses in combating swine influenza.

In addition, current swine influenza vaccines, which are formulated using whole inactivated virus



Hiep Vu and Sarah Sillman use a microscope to look at culture cells stained with green, fluorescent antibodies. (IANR Communications)

particles, may sometimes enhance respiratory distress in pigs when they are later infected with a different, non-matching viral strain. The Nebraska approach, in contrast, produced no worsening of respiratory conditions but instead prevented it.

In short, the new approach developed by Nebraska and partner research institutions offers key advantages — it is fast, effective, low-cost and easily updatable, said Hiep Vu, associate professor of animal science. Vu, an internationally recognized expert in animal virology, provided mentorship for the project, which

was primarily carried out by Husker graduate student The Nguyen, now a doctoral student in biomedical engineering at the University of Connecticut.

The need for low-cost, updateable swine vaccines is particularly great because pigs are remarkably susceptible to viral infection not only from other swine, but from other species, Vu said. Pigs, in fact, are described as virological “mixed vessels” because they can be infected simultaneously with multiple influenza strains from swine, birds and humans.

The resulting genetic comingling can create new hybrid flu viruses

with unpredictable traits, rendering previous vaccines ineffective. Although it is not common at present for pigs to be infected with highly pathogenic avian influenza, future swine contamination by a novel strain of that highly virulent disease would raise major concern.

Updating vaccines using traditional methods is time-consuming and expensive, however. And vaccine development to address highly pathogenic avian influenza is especially complicated because the process requires handling the virus in high-biosafety labs.

The new method developed at Nebraska sidesteps those complications because it uses only a key, non-infectious component of the virus, and scientists can quickly synthesize the component. Under that approach, an updated vaccine

could likely be developed within a month, Vu said. The focus, then, is not on a single vaccine. It is on developing a vaccine “platform” to efficiently generate updated versions as the virus continues to evolve.

The university’s facilities and expertise are well suited for advanced research on animal vaccines, Vu said. Sarah Sillman, a veterinary diagnostic pathologist with the Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center, is a key partner. Her detailed analysis of vaccinated and unvaccinated research animals is an important part of the research collaboration.

The diagnostic center and Vu partner on other vaccine-related projects, including vaccines against porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus, another

major virus affecting the swine industry.

Vu, who has secured more than \$3 million in competitive U.S. Department of Agriculture funding and \$2 million in collaborative grants for vaccine research, aims to follow up on the new project by studying possibilities for a similar vaccine approach for poultry.

“My hope is that if we can use the same technology for multiple species, that will make this approach more like a versatile responder,” he said. “You can have a standard vaccine platform that can be used for different species.”

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 Hartbeespoort Dam	92.1%
 Inanda Dam	89.4%
 Theewaterskloof Dam	70.5%
 Vaal Dam	85.8%
 Wemmershoek Dam	93.6%
 Woodstock Dam	69.2%
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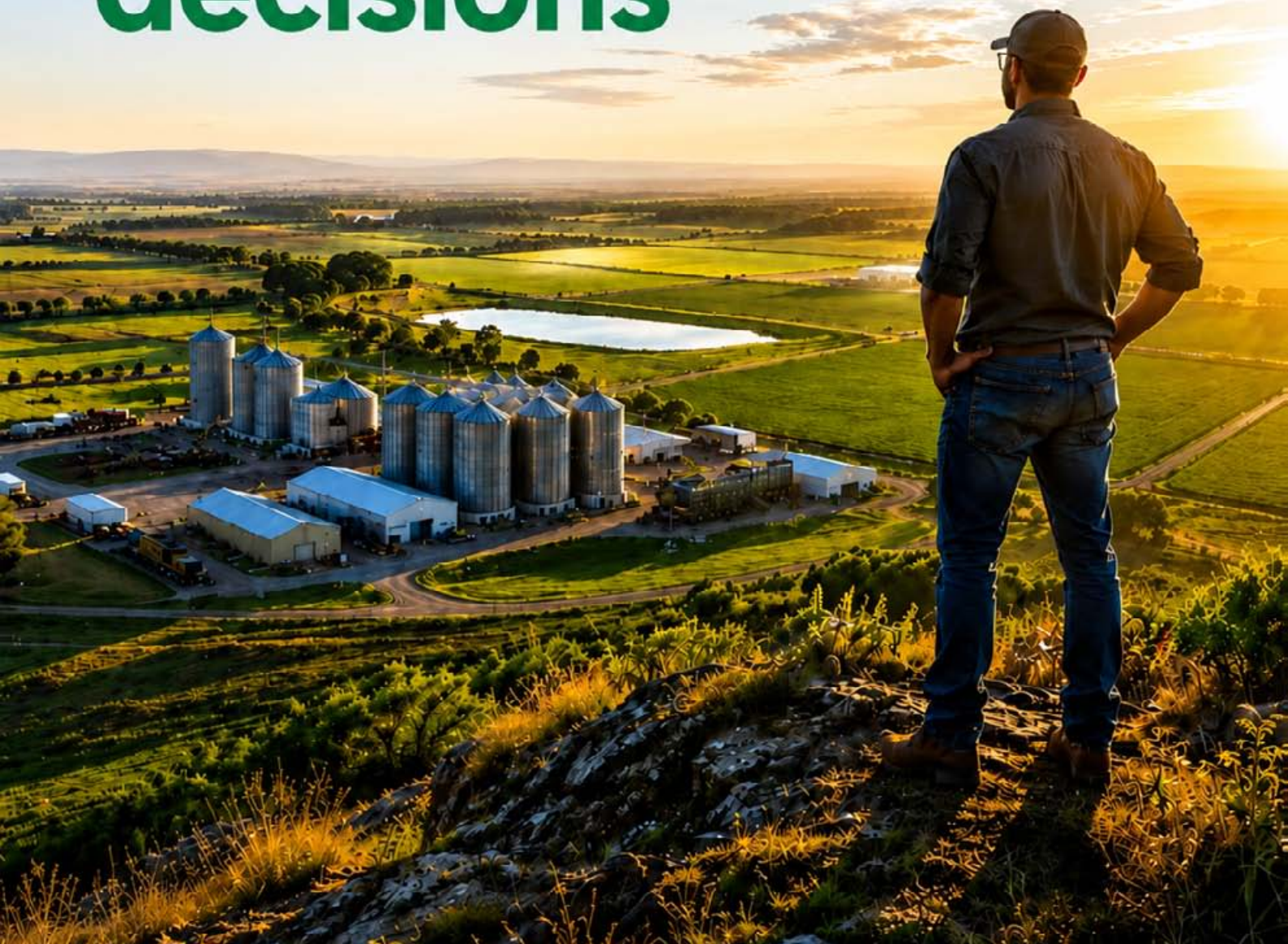
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Pasteurella multocida as an important and underestimated cause of pasteurellosis in small stock

*Pasteurellosis is a common respiratory disease of small stock which has major economic implications. The three important infectious organisms implicated in pasteurellosis in small stock include **Mannheimia haemolytica**, **Pasteurella multocida** and **Bibersteinia trehalosi**.¹ These organisms are commensal organisms and opportunistic pathogens found in the nasopharynx and tonsils of small ruminants.*

Various factors may contribute towards respiratory disease in small stock including adverse environmental factors, nutritional changes, dust and stress which result in immunosuppression and an overwhelming effect on the normal pulmonary defense mechanisms. Infection with parainfluenza (PI3) virus, respiratory syncytial virus, sheep pulmonary adenomatosis and *Mycoplasma spp* may also be predisposing factors for pneumonic pasteurellosis.^{1,2}

Mannheimia haemolytica can be considered as one of the most important bacterial causes of respiratory disease, causing pneumonic pasteurellosis in small ruminants.^{1,2,3} *Bibersteinia*



trehalosi is an important pathogen in temperate regions causing septicaemic pasteurellosis in especially lambs between the ages of 6-9 months of age.^{1,2}

PASTEURELLA MULTOCIDA HAS BEEN UNDERESTIMATED AS A CAUSE OF PASTEURELLOSIS IN SMALL RUMINANTS and have been infrequently cited as a cause of outbreaks of ovine and caprine pneumonia.^{3,4,5} *Pasteurella multocida* is especially important as an infectious cause of respiratory disease in tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world and have been isolated from small ruminants in various countries including South Africa, Nigeria, Senegal, Malaysia, Brazil, Turkey and India.⁵

The infectious serogroups of *Pasteurella multocida* associated with outbreaks of pneumonic pasteurellosis in sheep and goats have been incriminated as both

primary and secondary causes of pneumonia.^{4,7} *Pasteurella multocida* can result in disease, either alone or in combination with *Mannheimia haemolytica*.^{3,4} The prevalence of *Pasteurella multocida* may range between 9.6% to 20.5%.^{5,10}

Pasteurella multocida usually cause pneumonic pasteurellosis although septicaemic pasteurellosis have been reported in lambs.⁸ An outbreak of polyarthritis in lambs, attributed to *Pasteurella multocida* have been reported.¹¹ *Pasteurella multocida* was found to be an important cause of pneumonia where vaccine failure, using a *Mannheimia* (*Pasteurella*) *haemolytica* vaccine, occurred.³ *Pasteurella multocida* has also been implicated as an important cause of ovine mastitis and was isolated in 26 – 27% of subclinical and clinical cases.¹²

Experimental inoculation and natural infection with *Pasteurella*

multocida in sheep and goats result in acute, subacute and chronic infections and mortality.^{4,5,9} Prominent clinical signs include anorexia, mucoid nasal discharge, coughing, dyspnea (labored breathing), tachypnoea (fast breathing) and dullness.^{4,5,9}

On post-mortem examination the typical macroscopical pathological signs include pulmonary oedema (foamy lungs), hydrothorax (fluid in the chest cavity), fibrinous to fibrinopurulent pneumonia (pneumonia with attachment-like lesions and pus), congestion and hemorrhage of the liver and the thoracic and peripheral lymph nodes (swollen and bleeding liver and lymph nodes).^{4,5,9}

Fever is not always a clinical feature which have important implications in the clinical diagnosis of pasteurellosis caused by *Pasteurella multocida*. Vague clinical signs and the absence of fever could result in pneumonic pasteurellosis from *Pasteurella multocida* to go unnoticed in the field with a diagnosis only made during postmortem.⁵

As pneumonic pasteurellosis due to *Mannheimia haemolytica* becomes controlled in the field, the PREVALENCE OF PASTEURELLA MULTOCIDA PNEUMONIA IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE OVER TIME.⁵ *Pasteurella multocida* infection in small ruminants should receive more attention if the overall control of pneumonic pasteurellosis in the livestock

industry is to be meaningful.⁵

Livestock producers should be on the lookout for early signs of disease and appropriate antibiotic and anti-inflammatory treatment should be administered on recommendation of a veterinarian. Veterinarians should assist to isolate, culture and identify the responsible disease causing organism. Vaccination strategies should be implemented to ensure adequate immunity against the various causes of Pasteurellosis in small stock.

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A comparative efficacy study in cattle to determine the therapeutic efficacy of 2 oral formulations against 3 week old giant liver fluke (*F. gigantica*).

Study objectives

The objective of the study was to compare the efficacy of the test product against the reference product, when used against 3 week old giant liver fluke (*F. gigantica*)*.

Study design

A controlled, unicentre study using two treatment groups, and one untreated control group of cattle.

	Day	Group*
Infestation with giant liver fluke	0	1,2,3
Treatment	+21	1,2
Slaughter	+93	1,2,3

*Group 1: Test product group (n = 6); Group 2: Reference product group (n = 6); Group 3: Untreated control group (n = 6).

Trial animals

18 Nguni cross males, 10 months old, 130 - 229 kg. Identified by means of ear tags.

Test products

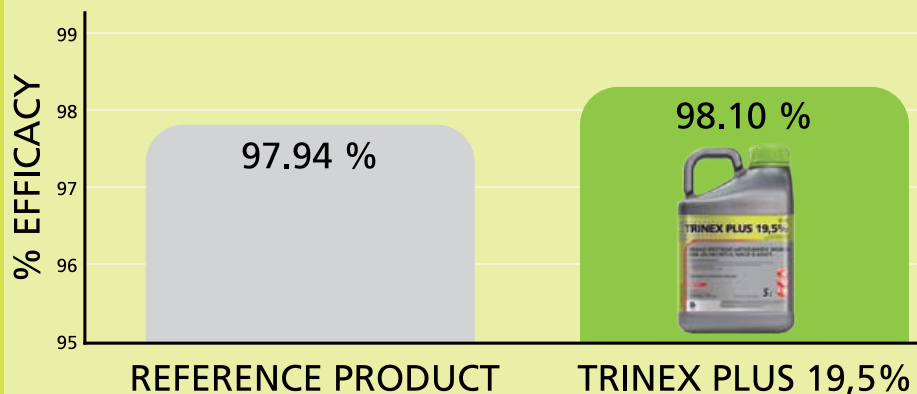
Test Product: An oral formulation (Trinex Plus 19,5 %) containing 12 % triclabendazole and 7,5 % levamisole.

Reference product: Oral formulation containing 12 % triclabendazole and 4,53 % oxfendazole.

Dosage

For both products, administration was done orally at a rate of 1 ml / 10 kg, yielding a dose of 12 mg / kg triclabendazole and 7,5 mg / kg levamisole (Trinex Plus 19,5 %) and 12 mg / kg triclabendazole and 4,53 mg / kg oxfendazole (Reference product).

EFFICACY BASED ON GEOMEAN FLUKE NUMBERS



* The South African regulatory authorities accept efficacy against 3 week old giant liver fluke (*F. gigantica*) as being equivalent to efficacy against 2 week-old liver fluke (*F. hepatica*). This is in evidence on the efficacy table on the label of the reference product. *F. gigantica* was used in this study because *F. hepatica* was not available at the time.

Reference: Kyron Animal Health enlisted the services of an independent contractor to conduct the study:*

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* Data on file

Conclusion

Slaughter studies are accepted as **gold standard**^{1,2} for efficacy testing against internal parasites. This slaughter study shows that the test and reference products are equally effective against 3 week old giant liver fluke, and thus also 2 week old liver fluke.



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Is Your Herd Ready for the Most Important 90 Days of Spring

A practical August–November livestock preparation guide for South African farmers

For many South African livestock producers, the period from August to November can determine much of the next production year's performance. Winter veld is reaching its nutritional low point, cows and ewes may be approaching calving or lambing, breeding animals must be prepared, and the first spring rains can rapidly change both grazing conditions and parasite pressure.

The critical principle is simple: fertility, immunity and body condition are easier to protect before the breeding season than to repair once problems have started.

Start with body condition – not the calendar

August is an ideal time to assess every breeding female rather than assuming the herd is ready because spring is approaching.

South African research on extensively managed Bonsmara cows has demonstrated a clear relationship between body condition score (BCS) and conception. Cows with a BCS of approximately 3.0–3.75 on a five-point scale achieved the highest conception rates, while cows below 2.75 performed substantially worse.



The ARC has similarly recommended monitoring beef cows towards a target BCS of approximately 2.5–3.0 at mating on a five-point scale.

This means thin animals should be identified now. Separate first-calvers, late-calvers, thin cows and replacement heifers where practical so that supplementation can be targeted rather than unnecessarily feeding the entire herd.

Match supplementation to what the veld provides

Late-winter veld and rapidly greening spring veld are very different feeds.

Supplementation therefore should not simply continue unchanged because “that is what we always feed in winter”. The objective is to address the nutrient deficiencies of the available forage while maintaining adequate intake.

Energy, protein, phosphorus, salt and trace-mineral requirements vary according to veld type, rainfall, production stage and existing body condition. South African research confirms that supplementation and maintaining cows within an appropriate bodyweight and condition range are important components of reproductive management on veld.

Have water and lick points ready before grazing conditions change, and discuss the appropriate programme with an animal nutritionist where necessary. Avoid indiscriminate mineral supplementation: more is not automatically better.

Bulls and rams need attention before breeding

A visually impressive sire is not necessarily a fertile sire.

Bulls should undergo a breeding soundness examination before the



breeding season, including physical and reproductive assessment and, where indicated, semen evaluation. ARC guidance specifically recommends breeding-soundness examinations before mating.

Check feet and legs, eyes, teeth, body condition, sheath or prepuce, testes and scrotum. Rams require the same disciplined approach. South African sheep research highlights mating ability and reproductive anatomy – including scrotal and testicular characteristics – as important considerations in breeding males.

Do this several weeks before mating. Discovering a fertility problem after the breeding season has started can mean losing an entire reproductive cycle.

Build the health programme before spring

Vaccination programmes should be farm-, area- and risk-specific, developed with the herd veterinarian or animal-health professional rather than copied from another farm.

Review vaccination histories, booster dates and the reproductive status of animals before administering vaccines. South Africa's Department of Agriculture emphasises preventative

animal-health activities, disease surveillance and control.

Spring and summer can also increase exposure to vector-borne diseases. For example, the Department notes that lumpy skin disease is associated particularly with wet summer and autumn conditions when biting insects are abundant, and vaccination is central to prevention.

Only registered stock remedies should be used and label instructions, withdrawal periods and veterinary recommendations must be followed.

Prepare for parasites – don't automatically treat everything

Warm weather and moisture can dramatically alter tick, fly, mosquito and internal-parasite pressure.

Inspect animals regularly and build control around the parasites actually present on the farm. Treatment timing and product choice should take local resistance patterns, animal class, production system and veterinary advice into account.

The aim should be effective parasite management, not simply more frequent chemical treatment.

Manage the transition onto spring grazing

The first green flush is encouraging, but farmers should avoid assuming that visible green grass immediately solves the nutritional challenges of late winter.

Early spring growth can be limited in available dry matter, and livestock may still need nutritional support while veld recovers. Avoid grazing newly emerging veld too aggressively. Protecting leaf area allows plants to rebuild reserves and can improve subsequent grazing availability.

This is also the time to inspect water systems, camps, fences, handling facilities and breeding camps before workload increases.

The 90-day rule: prevent rather than repair

By November, the consequences of August management are already becoming visible.

Farmers should use the next 90 days to answer seven questions:

1. Are breeding females at the correct body condition?
2. Does supplementation match current veld and production requirements?
3. Have bulls and rams passed reproductive examinations?
4. Are vaccinations and boosters current and correctly timed?
5. Is parasite monitoring in place?
6. Is spring grazing being introduced without damaging recovering veld?
7. Are breeding, calving/lambing and health records up to date?



Spring does not create reproductive performance – preparation does. A breeding female entering the season in good condition, backed by sound nutrition, an appropriate health programme and a fertile sire gives the farmer a far stronger foundation than attempting to correct deficiencies once mating, calving or lambing is already underway.

Sources

The principal sources used were the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) National Beef Recording and Improvement Scheme; South African Journal of Animal Science, including University of Pretoria/ South African Stud Book research on Bonsmara body condition and conception; South African Society for Animal Science research on supplementation and reproductive management; and the South African Department of Agriculture, Directorate: Animal Health and Agriculture Inputs Control.

Useful source pages:

- Department of Agriculture – Animal Health
- South African Bonsmara fertility and BCS study
- ARC National Beef Recording and Improvement Scheme

Publication note: Because vaccination schedules, parasite programmes and mineral requirements differ by province, production system, pregnancy status and disease risk, these should always be finalised with the farmer's veterinarian, animal-health technician or qualified nutritionist rather than treated as a universal national schedule.



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Farmers Innovations Competition puts Ingenuity in the Spotlight at NAMPO Cape

Practical plans, smart solutions and authentic South African ingenuity will once again take centre stage from 9 to 12 September 2026 during NAMPO Cape at Bredasdorp Park. Grain SA invites inventors, farmers, students and technology enthusiasts to enter their innovations in the popular Farmers Innovations, a showcase for ideas that make everyday challenges on farms, in workshops and around the home simpler, smarter and more affordable.

Following a strong 2025 competition that attracted 32 innovative entries, the 2026 edition will focus on ideas that are practical to implement, cost-effective and relevant to the modern agricultural environment. Entries will be adjudicated across eight categories:

- New: original agricultural equipment and digital technology
- Modified: adapted implements and software
- Tools: electric and non-electric
- Home and garden: smart solutions for household use



- Open category: cost-effective ideas under R5 000
- Schools category: entries from learners and students
- Commercial category: plans already being marketed
- Video category: for ideas that cannot be physically displayed

Participants must submit their plans on or before Monday, 1 September. Commercial and video entries must be received by 20 August. All entries must be submitted on the official entry form and must be available at the Boereplanne stand, E8, by Tuesday, 8 September at 14:00.

Adjudication will take place on Wednesday, 9 September, with the prize-giving ceremony scheduled for Friday, 11 September at 12:00. Prize money is proudly sponsored by Omnia Nutriology®. Winners will be announced on Landbouweekblad's platforms



and the sponsors' social media channels, while the winner of the commercial category will receive a special 10 m x 10 m exhibition space at NAMPO Cape 2027.

Visitors are invited to view the entries at the Boereplanne stand

next to Omnia and experience first-hand how simple ideas can unlock significant practical value. Entries may be directed to Wim Venter at wim@grainsa.co.za or 086 004 7246 download the entry form here.

"Year after year, the Boereplanne Competition shows that innovation does not always have to be complicated or expensive; sometimes it starts with a practical problem and a farmer who decides there must be a better way," say the organisers.

The competition gives participants an opportunity to share their ideas

with the agricultural community, receive recognition for practical innovation and contribute to a more inventive, efficient agricultural sector.

Visitor information

Tickets for NAMPO Cape 2026 will be available online at www.opentickets.co.za. Tickets will not be day-specific and may be used on any of the four days.

- R110 per adult (online)
- R120 per adult (at the gate)
- R60 per child (at the gate only)
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El Niño Is Coming: Is Your Livestock Farm Ready for Summer?

For South African cattle, sheep and goat producers, the coming summer is a season to plan for—not a season to gamble on.

The University of Pretoria's July 2026 seasonal forecast is a significant warning for livestock producers. Its model predicts the development of a very strong El Niño state during the 2026/27 summer. While late winter rainfall prospects were comparatively favourable over parts of the summer-rainfall region, the forecast shifts towards below-normal rainfall over much of the summer-rainfall region by early summer, while above-normal maximum temperatures become a dominant signal. UP also cautions that temperature forecasts generally have greater skill than seasonal rainfall forecasts.

A forecast is not a guarantee of drought. But it is sufficient reason to reduce risk before animals and veld come under pressure.

Start with the veld, not the number of animals

The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) emphasises that rainfall and temperature are key determinants of veld productivity. Climate-smart veld management therefore starts



with veld-condition assessment, stocking-rate determination, grazing capacity and fodder-flow planning.

Farmers should consequently avoid asking, "How many animals did this farm carry last year?" The more useful question is: "How many animals can the forage currently available carry through the coming production cycle without damaging the veld?"

Grazing capacity varies considerably between veld types, farms, camps and seasons. Calculate available grazing against livestock demand using the appropriate livestock-unit (LSU) system and local grazing-capacity recommendations, preferably with assistance from an extension officer or grazing specialist.

The Department of Agriculture notes that veld remains South Africa's main and cheapest livestock feed resource and specifically identifies veld

monitoring, grazing-capacity assessment and timely decisions about reducing and marketing stock as important climate-risk management measures.

Build the fodder reserve before everyone needs one

Do not wait for a drought declaration before looking for feed.

ARC guidance recommends purchasing and stockpiling hay or silage, or establishing fodder reserves for dry years. Importantly, feed can become scarcer and more expensive during drought, making advance fodder-flow planning particularly valuable. Stored feed must also be kept secure and dry.

The quantity required cannot be expressed as one universal number of bales per cow or ewe. Calculate the dry-matter requirements of the specific livestock classes, expected supplementation period, available veld contribution and likely wastage.

This is also why entering summer with every camp grazed short is risky. Carrying a reserve of usable veld provides a buffer if effective rainfall arrives late or is poorly distributed.

Water could become the limiting resource

Hotter conditions increase the importance of reliable stock water.

Before temperatures climb, inspect boreholes, pumps, pipelines, reservoirs, troughs and backup power. Determine whether water points can supply the herd during peak demand—not merely whether they contain water today.

Check borehole delivery rates and reservoir capacity and identify camps dependent on a single pump or pipeline. Water quality also matters: deteriorating sources should be tested where necessary.

A farm with adequate standing forage but inadequate drinking water still has a stocking problem.

Decide now which animals leave first

One of the most expensive drought-management mistakes is postponing destocking until livestock have lost substantial condition and grazing has already been depleted.

Establish a culling priority before conditions deteriorate.

Logical early candidates include barren or repeatedly non-pregnant females, animals with chronic health or structural problems, poor performers, animals beyond the farm's preferred productive age and surplus males. Fertility, age, health and body condition are recognised culling considerations in South African small-stock systems.

Protecting the productive nucleus of the herd or flock should receive priority: fertile breeding females, sound breeding bulls or rams, and genetically valuable replacement



animals.

South African drought-feeding research also stresses that drought decisions must consider economics, nutrition, available feed resources and the probable duration of the shortage.

Selling surplus animals early can simultaneously reduce grazing pressure, conserve water and feed, and prevent farmers from being forced to market severely conditioned animals later.

El Niño does not mean every South African livestock district will experience drought. Seasonal forecasts contain uncertainty and local rainfall can differ substantially. But the developing risk makes one principle particularly important for 2026/27: preserve your veld and breeding herd while you still have management choices.

Once grazing has been exhausted, livestock have lost condition and feed prices have risen, those choices become considerably more expensive.

Sources

- University of Pretoria, Department of Geography, Geoinformatics and Meteorology — Seasonal Forecast, July 2026.
- Agricultural Research Council — Climate-Smart Agriculture: Veld and Pasture Management.
- South African Department of Agriculture — Veld, Forage and Wildlife Ranching.
- FAO/Grootfontein Agricultural Development Institute — J.H. Hoon, Feeding Management in Drought Years.
- South African Journal of Agricultural Extension/AGRIS — research on selection and culling of breeding stock.

The El Niño readiness checklist

Before summer, livestock producers should be able to tick these boxes:

Conduct a veld-condition assessment and calculate realistic grazing capacity.

Match cattle, sheep and goat numbers to available forage, not historical stocking levels.

Identify camps that will serve as grazing reserves.

Calculate dry-season and emergency feed requirements and begin securing fodder.

Inspect boreholes, pumps, tanks, reservoirs, pipelines and troughs.

Establish a backup plan for critical livestock water systems.

Pregnancy-test where appropriate and identify non-productive animals.

Compile a predetermined culling/destocking order.

Prioritise the condition and nutrition of breeding females and breeding males.

Monitor rainfall, veld condition, animal body condition and water availability regularly.

Set predetermined decision points for further destocking rather than waiting for a crisis.

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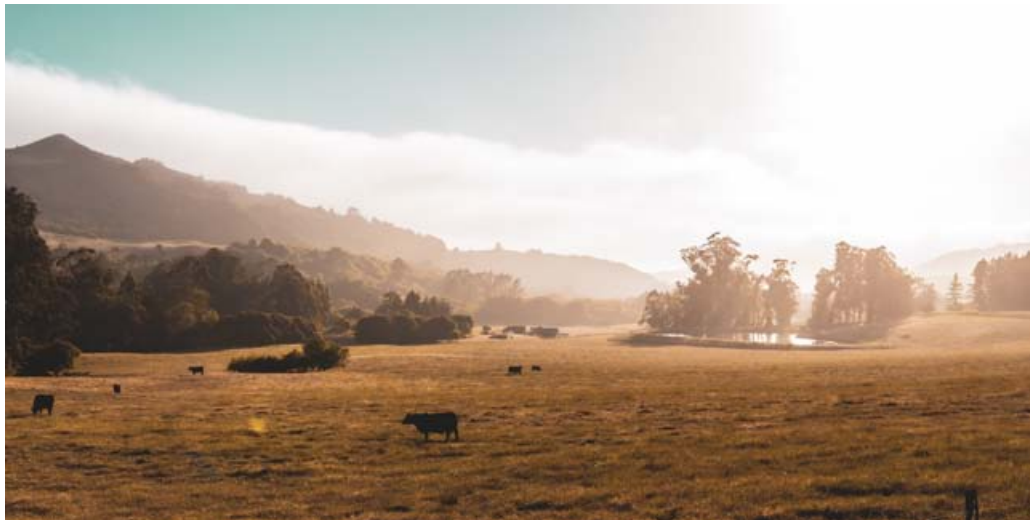


TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY.



Don't Wait for the Veld: How to Bridge the Late-Winter Feed Gap

August and early spring can be deceptive. The days become warmer and the first green shoots appear, but for many South African livestock producers, the most difficult nutritional period may not yet be over.



Natural veld remains the foundation—and generally the least expensive source—of feed for South African extensive livestock systems. Its carrying capacity and nutritional value, however, fluctuate considerably with rainfall, temperature, veld condition and grazing management. The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) therefore recommends veld-condition assessment, appropriate stocking rates and fodder-flow planning as fundamental components of sustainable livestock management.

Start with what is actually left

Before buying another load of feed, assess the quantity and quality of standing dry matter available in each camp. A camp can look well covered while providing relatively little usable forage.

The Southern African dry season

produces a recognised nutritional feed gap: forage quantity declines while important nutrients, particularly crude protein and phosphorus, also decrease.

This distinction is important because supplementary feed should correct the limiting nutrient, not simply add expensive nutrients indiscriminately.

Protein or energy?

On mature winter grassveld, crude protein frequently becomes limiting. Research from South Africa reports winter veld crude protein concentrations below 5% in some production environments, accompanied by reduced metabolisable energy.

A protein supplement can support rumen microbial activity and improve the animal's ability to utilise fibrous veld. Recent South African research with pregnant beef cows consuming very low-quality winter grass hay also demonstrated that



increasing rumen-degradable protein increased dry-matter and digestible-organic-matter intake up to an optimum.

But protein cannot manufacture grass.

Where there is insufficient roughage, the problem has shifted from quality to quantity. Hay, silage or another appropriate roughage source may therefore be required. Where animals also cannot meet their energy requirements, particularly lactating females or growing stock, additional energy supplementation may be justified.

What is your lick supposed to achieve?

A lick is a nutritional tool, not an insurance policy.

Ask: What deficiency am I correcting?

During the dry season, a protein/mineral lick may complement mature veld; during the growing season, mineral supplementation may become more appropriate. South African research on Drakensberger cattle grazing transitional Cymbopogon-Themedra veld found that carefully targeted supplementation could maintain production while lower-cost supplementation strategies could provide better economic returns than heavier supplementation.

Monitor lick intake against the manufacturer's recommended intake and formulate programmes with an animal nutritionist where necessary. More supplement does not automatically mean more production.

Protect your roughage reserve

Count hay bales and other conserved fodder before the veld reaches crisis point. Estimate how many kilograms of dry matter the herd or flock requires per day and compare this with available veld and stored feed.

Dry matter matters. Mature cattle commonly consume roughly 2.2–2.3% of bodyweight as dry matter daily, although intake varies according to animal class, physiological status and forage quality.

Prioritise animals according to nutritional demand. Late-pregnant and lactating females, replacement heifers, young growing animals and breeding stock generally have less room for nutritional restriction than mature, dry animals in good condition.

Regular body condition scoring (BCS) is therefore more useful than waiting until animals visibly lose substantial weight.

Don't feed every animal the same

Separate nutritional groups wherever practical. Feeding expensive concentrate to mature dry cows simply because replacement heifers or lactating females require it increases the whole-herd feed bill unnecessarily.

Research on replacement Drakensberger heifers in the Free State found that feeding heifers towards traditional higher bodyweight targets increased development costs without sufficient improvement in productivity. The researchers emphasised well-managed veld, appropriate seasonal supplementation and adequate roughage.

That principle is valuable beyond heifers: supplementation must produce a measurable biological or economic benefit.

Know when feeding stops making financial sense

Calculate supplementary feeding as rand per animal per day, then multiply it by the expected feeding period and number of animals.

If maintaining low-value or non-productive animals through the feed gap costs more than their realistic contribution to the enterprise, reassess stocking numbers. Empty females, animals with chronic production problems and surplus or poor-performing stock should not automatically consume scarce conserved feed intended for the breeding nucleus.

Strategic destocking can protect both cash flow and veld condition.

The green flush can fool you

One of the greatest early-



spring mistakes is withdrawing supplementary feed as soon as the veld turns green.

Young grass contains considerable moisture. Fresh spring pasture may contain only about 20–30% dry matter, meaning that what looks like abundant green forage can provide substantially less dry matter per kilogram of fresh material than hay.

Consequently, the appearance of green grass does not necessarily mean sufficient grazeable dry matter has accumulated.

Continue assessing animal condition, forage availability and actual grazing behaviour. Reduce supplementation progressively as the veld becomes capable of meeting the animals' requirements rather than simply because the landscape has changed colour.

The objective of late-winter feeding is not to replace the veld indefinitely. It is to bridge the nutritional gap economically while protecting animal performance, breeding stock and the veld itself until adequate grazing is genuinely available.

Sources

The principal sources used are:

- the [Agricultural Research Council – Climate-Smart Veld and Pasture Management](#);
- [University of Pretoria – The Nutritional Feed Gap in Southern Africa](#)
- and research published in the South African Journal of Animal Science on [beef herd lick supplementation](#)
- [replacement-heifer supplementation](#)
- [rumen-degradable protein requirements of pregnant beef cattle](#)
- Dry-matter guidance is supported by [University of Nebraska–Lincoln Beef Extension](#).

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Your Herd's Summer Survival Plan: Water, Shade, Grazing and Heat



South African livestock producers should prepare for summer heat before the first heatwave arrives. The University of Pretoria's seasonal forecasting work has indicated a developing strong El Niño state for the 2026/27 summer, while forecasts for above-normal maximum temperatures are considered more reliable than corresponding rainfall forecasts.

For cattle, sheep and goat producers, summer preparedness therefore needs to extend beyond rainfall expectations. Water infrastructure, veld management, shade, stocking pressure and animal handling should all form part of a practical heat-management plan.

Water is your first line of defence

Water demand varies according to species, live weight, physiological status, dry-matter intake, diet, environmental temperature and the moisture content of available forage. FAO guidance for African rangeland conditions gives a practical development guideline of approximately 25 litres/day for a 350 kg non-lactating bovine and around 5 litres/day for a 30–35 kg sheep or goat under the conditions assessed. These figures should not be regarded as summer maximums: requirements can increase substantially with heat, lactation and dry feed.

Sheep water intake, for example, increases sharply as environmental temperature rises above approximately 21°C, while late-pregnant and lactating ewes require greater access to water.

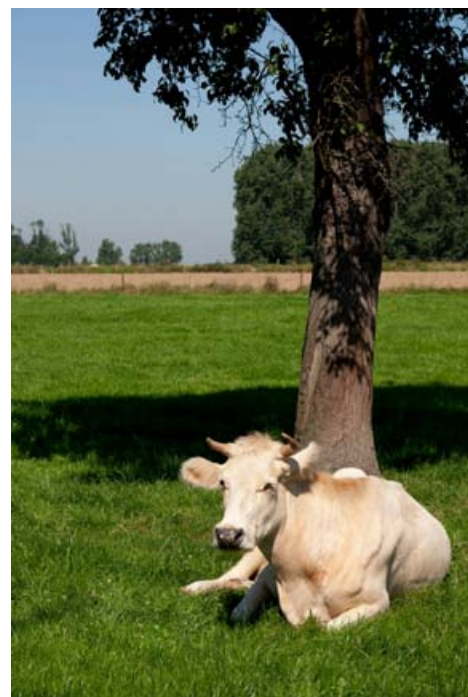
This means farmers should calculate water provision for peak demand, not average consumption.

Before summer, inspect every reservoir, pipeline, ball valve and drinking trough. Measure the actual trough refill rate in litres per minute and determine whether it can replace water as quickly as a group of animals drinks it. Borehole yield, pump delivery capacity and reservoir storage must also be assessed as a complete system.

A second water source, standby pump, generator or sufficient stored water can turn a pump failure from an emergency into a maintenance problem.

Reduce unnecessary walking

Water placement affects grazing



behaviour. Long distances between grazing and watering points increase the energy animals expend and expose them to additional heat.

Where practical, organise camps so animals have reasonable access to reliable watering points. Avoid forcing livestock to repeatedly cross large camps simply to drink.



At the same time, manage grazing according to veld condition and available forage, rather than a fixed calendar. The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) recommends veld-condition assessment, stocking-rate determination, grazing-capacity assessment and fodder-flow planning as fundamental components of climate-smart veld management.

Rotational grazing should therefore allow camps adequate recovery and prevent repeated utilisation of preferred plants. If forage availability begins declining faster than anticipated, adjust stocking pressure before veld condition deteriorates severely.

Shade matters

Animals exposed to high solar radiation must dissipate both metabolic and environmental heat. Trees can provide valuable natural shade, while properly designed artificial structures are another option.

The ARC recommends approximately 3–4 m² of shade per beef cow, 1.5–2 m² per 200 kg beef calf and 1–2 m² per small-stock animal. It suggests shade structures approximately 3–4 m

high for cattle and 2–3 m for small stock, helping heat escape beneath the structure.

Shade should also be positioned so that it does not create excessive congregation around water points or cause unacceptable trampling and veld degradation.

Know the signs of heat stress

Heat-stressed livestock may show panting, increased respiratory rate, increased water consumption, reduced feed intake, lethargy and increased salivation. Severe cases can progress to collapse or unconsciousness. The ARC identifies a respiration rate above approximately 60 breaths per minute among warning signs of heat stress.

Farmers and stockmen should increase observation during very hot weather, particularly for heavily pregnant animals, lactating females, young stock and animals already under nutritional or health stress.

Avoid unnecessary handling, processing and transport during the hottest part of the day. Routine activities such as weighing, dosing, vaccination and movement between camps are better scheduled for the cooler early-morning periods where circumstances permit.

Protect body condition before the veld deteriorates

Heat and declining forage quality can work together. Higher temperatures and drought can negatively affect both veld quantity

and quality, while stocking strategy directly influences the resilience of the grazing resource.

Monitor body condition score (BCS) rather than waiting for obvious live-weight loss. Pay particular attention to breeding females, replacement heifers and ewe lambs, growing stock and lactating animals.

Finally, establish drought decision points now. Know how much stored fodder is available, how many days the farm's water reserves can support the herd or flock, which livestock classes would be marketed first, and at what veld or water threshold stocking numbers must be reduced.

Summer survival is ultimately about prepared capacity. A functioning borehole, adequate storage, correctly stocked veld, reserve fodder and an established heat-management plan are far more valuable before a prolonged hot spell than emergency measures introduced after livestock performance has already declined.

Sources

The principal sources used are the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) of South Africa, particularly its Climate-Smart Agriculture Veld and Pasture Management and Small Stock Production resources and ARC Beef Bulletin; the University of Pretoria Seasonal Forecast Worx programme; and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) livestock water-requirement resources.

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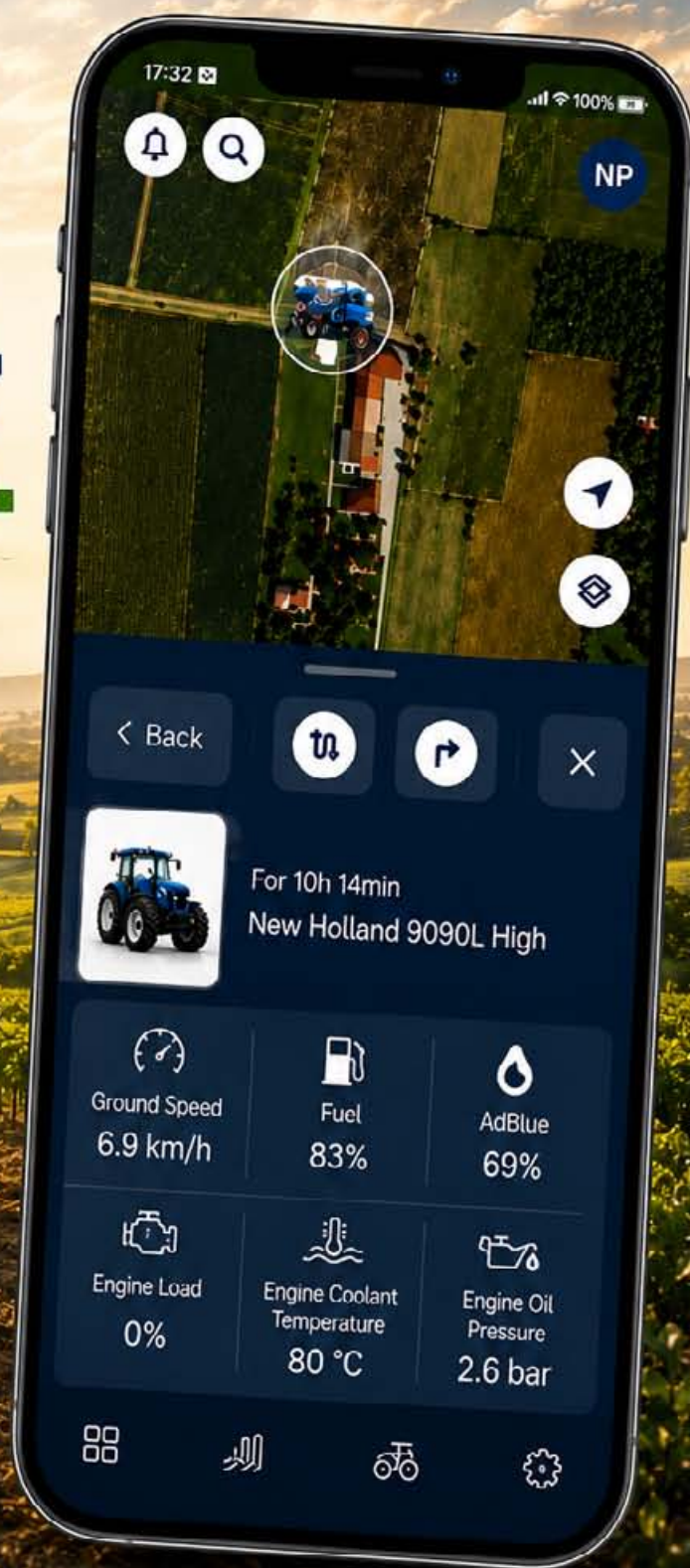
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SHDK: Building Profitable Beef Herds with the Drakensberger



For South African cattle producers, profitability begins with an animal that can reproduce, raise a calf and perform efficiently within the environment in which it is expected to produce. This philosophy lies at the heart of the Southern Highveld Drakensberger Club (SHDK) and the distinctive black cattle its members breed.

Based in Vrede, the SHDK brings together Drakensberger breeders committed to developing and promoting functional, productive cattle. The club has a long-standing tradition of presenting an annual auction under the auspices of the Drakensberger Cattle Breeders' Society of South Africa, giving stud and commercial producers an opportunity to invest in carefully selected Drakensberger genetics.

This year, the farming community is invited back to Vrede for the annual SHDK Drakensberger Club Auction on Thursday, 20 August 2026, at 11:00 at the Vrede Auction Pens.

A South African breed built for South African conditions

The Drakensberger is one of South Africa's indigenous cattle breeds and has been developed over generations under Southern African conditions. The Drakensberger Cattle Breeders' Society was officially established



on 7 November 1947, although the history of these cattle extends much further back.

Today's Drakensberger is a medium-framed beef animal characterised by its smooth black coat, length and depth of body and generally docile temperament.

Selection within the breed has placed emphasis on economically important characteristics including adaptability, fertility, maternal ability, longevity, growth, feed

conversion and carcass quality.

These characteristics matter because beef production is ultimately about kilograms of marketable beef produced efficiently from the resources available on the farm.

Why consider Drakensberger genetics?

For commercial cattle producers, one of the Drakensberger's major advantages is its suitability for



extensive production systems.

Adaptability is particularly important where cattle must utilise natural veld and cope with seasonal fluctuations in forage quality. A breeding female must maintain sufficient condition to conceive, carry a calf, calve and raise that calf while remaining productive within the herd.

Fertility and maternal performance are therefore central to profitable cow-calf production. The Drakensberger breeding programme places emphasis on fertility, calving performance, milk or maternal ability and longevity alongside growth and production characteristics.

Feed efficiency is another economically significant trait. Producing more beef from available feed resources can directly influence the economics of a cattle enterprise. Drakensberger breeders consequently make use

of performance information and breeding values to identify animals suited to different production objectives.

The breed also offers opportunities in crossbreeding. For commercial farmers, introducing appropriately selected Drakensberger genetics can contribute indigenous adaptability and maternal characteristics to a crossbreeding programme. As with any breeding programme, however, bull selection should be matched to the farmer's specific environment, cow herd, available nutrition and marketing objectives.

Selection backed by information

The value of buying breeding animals extends beyond appearance.

Official Drakensberger auction catalogues incorporate pedigree and performance information,

including relevant LOGIX breeding values and selection values. These tools allow prospective buyers to consider traits such as calving ease, calf growth, maternal performance, maintenance requirements, fertility, post-weaning growth and carcass characteristics when selecting genetics.

Importantly, auctions held under the auspices of the Drakensberger Cattle Breeders' Society are subject to defined requirements. Animals must meet the breed's functional efficiency standards. Bulls require fertility certification, and bulls that have previously served cows must be tested for trichomoniasis. Required health and reproductive documentation also applies to females.

For buyers, this provides an important framework when assessing breeding stock.

Seven breeders bring their genetics to Vrede

The 2026 SHDK Auction brings together genetics from seven Drakensberger operations:

1. Theunissen Drakensbergers – JP Theunissen
[079 417 2639](tel:0794172639)
jpthunissen@ssendra.co.za
2. Mambane Drakensbergers – Louis Botha, Vrede
[082 825 2431](tel:0828252431)
bothaboerdery04@gmail.com
3. Grasmunt Drakensbergers – Carel Nel, Brandfort
[082 828 1984](tel:0828281984)
carelnel02@gmail.com
4. Brakenjan Drakensbergers / Van Dyk Broers – Fanie van Dyk, Brandfort
[082 774 4952](tel:0827744952)
js.vandyk@mweb.co.za
5. Turfkuil Drakensbergers – Frannie du Toit, Bultfontein
[072 355 7601](tel:0723557601)
turfkuildutoit@gmail.com
6. Sambesi Drakensbergers – Dr Sampie Smith
[082 940 9283](tel:0829409283)
sampie.smith@yahoo.com

7. Delram Cattle Co / Delram
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decisions in a beef enterprise.

The SHDK Auction therefore offers
more than an opportunity to buy
black cattle. It is an opportunity to
evaluate Drakensberger genetics
from established breeders, study
performance information and
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Auction enquiries:

JP Theunissen

079 417 2639

jpthunissen@ssendra.co.za

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Sources: The Drakensberger
Cattle Breeders' Society of South
Africa confirms that the breed is
indigenous, medium-framed and
selected for Southern African
conditions. Its breed information
identifies adaptability, fertility,

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maternal ability, longevity, growth,
feed conversion and carcass
quality among important selection
traits. The Society's auction rules
confirm the functional-efficiency,
fertility and veterinary requirements
applicable to auctions under its
auspices.

The breeder contact details above
were cross-checked against
official Drakensberger breeder
records and the SHDK's previous

official auction catalogue. Those
records confirm, among others,
Mambane/Louis Botha, Turfkuil/
Frannie du Toit, Sambesi/Sampie
Smith, Theunissen/JP Theunissen,
Brakenjan/Fanie van Dyk,
Grasmunt/Carel Nel and Delram/
Henk Delpot.

[Drakensberger SA – official website](#)

[Official 2026 Drakensberger
auction calendar](#)

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SOURCES

- Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)
- Onderstepoort Biological Products (OBP)
- State Veterinary Services (Provincial Reports)
- National Animal Identification and Traceability System (NAITIS)

Data accurate as of 31 May 2026



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Johan v d Berg

Topic: Climate change and
outlook for 2026/27
in our area

12:00 - Break

12:30 - Speakers:

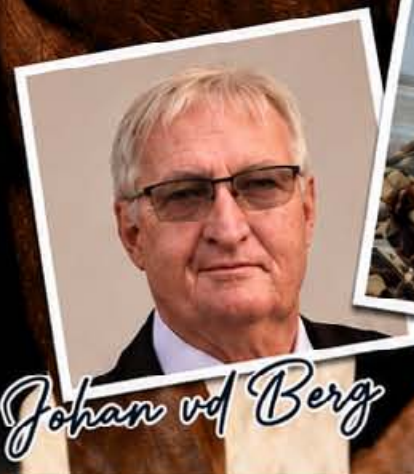
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PEET KOEKEMOER

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AUCTION: 19 AUGUST 2026 | 11:00

OPEN DAY: 15 AUGUST 2026 | 10:00

**AUCTION & OPEN DAY TO BE HELD AT
VENUE: BIESIESLAAGTE, WOLMARANSSTAD**

GPS: -26.9342685 LAT | 25.7494338 LONG

 **Karoo-Ochse**

VRYBURG: 053 927 2311

CHRISTO KAMFFER: 083 456 8763

STEVEN MATHEWS (AUCTIONEER): 076 865 0640

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SUIDELIKE HOËVELD DRAKENSBERGER KLUB

**20
AUG
2026**



OOSTE WESTE BESTE
S H D K

TELERS:

Louis Botha
Carel Nel
Fanie van Dyk
Jan Dhooge
Bertus Nel

Frannie du Toit
Sampie Smith
Ssendra Co
Delram Cattle Co

VREDE VEILINGSKRALE

GRATIS VERVOER VAN BULLE

35

TOP GEREISTREERDE BULLE



BKB

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NAVRAE:
CAREL DAVEL 082 331 1811
JANDRÉ MOLL 082 307 9169
AFSLAER: BILLY LYONS 082 785 5498
BKB, STANDERTON: 017 712 1245
LOUIS BOTHA 082 825 2431 (SHOK)

BKB LIMITED
61 GRAHAMSTOWN RD, NORTHEND,
PORT ELIZABETH, 6001
BTW NR.: 4100101338
REG NR.: 1998/012435/06

MARLAN GROEP

PRODUKSIE VEILING

VRYPDAG

21 AUGUSTUS 2026

om 11:00 te Mooilaagte plaas, Lykso, Vryburg



LOT 8 - MR2319



AANBOD:

21 Simmentaler bulle
1 Brahman bul
21 Koeie en kalwers(3 in 1)
60 Dragtige koeie/verse
64 Koeie met kalwers

Aandeel diere bestaan uit
top Simmentaler, Simbra
en Brahman tipe diere.

Bulle word vervoer na hoof
sentrale punte tot en met 250km.

Aanbod onderhewig aan verandering.

 **Karoo-Ochse**

VRYPBURG: 053 927 2311



PRODUKSIE VEILING 21 AUGUSTUS 2026

om 11:00 te Mooilaagte plaas, Lykso, Vryburg



LOT 5 - MR2336



LOT 7 - MR2312



LOT 4 - MR2374



LOT 6 - MR237



AANBOD: 24 Simmentaler bulle
1 Brahman bul

21 Koeie en kalwers(3 in 1)
60 Dragtige koeie/verse

64 Koeie met
kalwers



MARLAN GROEP PRODUKSIE VEILING 21 AUGUSTUS 2026

om 11:00 te Mooilaagte plaas, Lykso, Vryburg



LOT 19 - TN2398



Diere is geënt of gespuit met:
Bar-Vac 10, Ivermax Metabolic, Pro-Vit A, Multimin

NAVRAE:

Martin Swart	082 689 9000
Lardus du Plessis(Agent)	083 478 8062
Wikus Bylsma(Agent)	082 313 8858
Steven Mathews(Afslaer)	076 865 0640



 **Karoo-Ochse**

VRYBURG: 053 927 2311

TERME: Slegs kontant of elektroniese betalings. Kaart fasiliteite sal beskikbaar wees.
Bankkoste word op kontant en kaartbetalings gehef. Aankope mag eers gelaai en verwyder word
sodra Karoo-Ochse bewys van betaling ontvang het.



MARLAN GROEP PRODUKSIE VEILING

21 AUGUSTUS 2026

om 11:00 te Mooilaagte plaas, Lykso, Vryburg



LOT 8 - MR2319



AANBOD:

- 24 Simmentaler bulle
- 1 Brahman bul
- 21 Koeie en kalwers (3 in 1)
- 60 Dragtige koeie/verse
- 64 Koeie met kalwers

Aandeel diere bestaan uit
top Simmentaler, Simbra
en Brahman tipe diere.

Bulle word vervoer na hoof
sentrale punte tot en met
250km.

 **Karoo-Ochse**

VRYBURG:

053 927 2311



Diere is geënt of gespuit met:

Bar-Vac 10, Ivermax Metabolic, Pro-Vit A, Multimin



MARLAN
GROEP (Pty) Ltd

NAVRAE:

Martin Swart	082 689 9000
Lardus du Plessis (Agent)	083 478 8062
Wikus Bylsma (Agent)	082 313 8858
Steven Mathews (Afslaer)	076 865 0640

AANBOD ONDERHEWIG AAN VERANDERING. | TERME: Slegs kontant of elektroniese betalings.
Kaart fasiliteite sal beskikbaar wees. Bankkoste word op kontant en kaartbetalings gehef.
Aankope mag eers gelaai en verwyder word sodra Karoo-Ochse bewys van betaling ontvang het.



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21 AUG 2026
11:00
VAL, MPUMALANGA

400
BOVELDERS
★★★★★

ON OFFER:



15
BULLS



80
1st CALF COWS
WITH CALVES



150
PREGNANT
HEIFERS



75
OPEN
HEIFERS



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by arrangement
with sellers



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for better growth,
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PROFITABILITY**
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productive cattle for
maximum returns.



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HERD**
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African conditions
– tested, proven,
and reliable.

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082 331 1811

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PROUD ONLINE PLATFORM
MEERKAT
ONLINE AUCTIONS



Xourel Limousins **BEGINNERS & JUNIOR COURSE**



Xourel
PRODUCTION SALE

**12 SEPTEMBER
2026**



DATE: 25 & 26 AUGUST 2026



WHERE: XOUREL LIMOUSINS, LICHTENBURG



COST: R1200



RSVP: 15 AUGUST 2026



Book your space with **Melissa 0825716709**



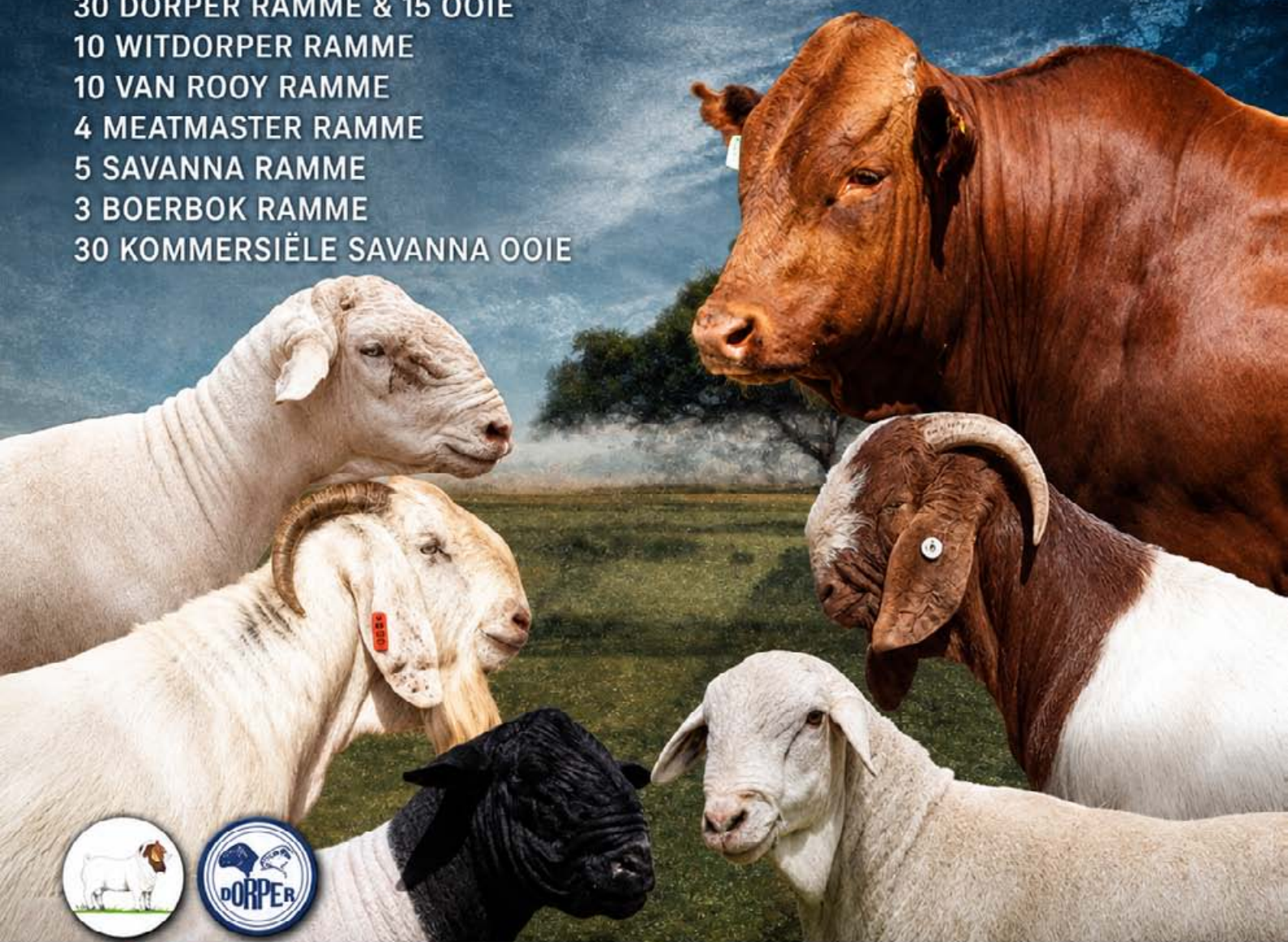
**POSTMASBURG
LENTEVEILING**

OP VEILING:

30 DORPER RAMME & 15 OOIE
10 WITDORPER RAMME
10 VAN ROOY RAMME
4 MEATMASTER RAMME
5 SAVANNA RAMME
3 BOERBOK RAMME
30 KOMMERSIËLE SAVANNA OOIE

DAGBOEK DIE 26 AUG. '26 DATUM

11:00 | POSTMASBURG SKOUGRONDE



Bemarker: Roux van der Merwe - 082 781 3735

Stoet- & Spesiale Veilings: Ramona de Bruin - 083 319 8626

Afslaer: Chris Hendriks - 083 449 0852

☎ 053 927 3871 ✉ info@nklh.co.za 📍 Industria Str 6, Vryburg, 8600 📱 📺 📷



34STE PRODUKSIEVEILING
10 SEPTEMBER 2026

DAGBOEK DIE DATUM

Vrydag 21 Augustus 2026 - Boeredag

GRATIS VERVOER-400km radius

LEWENDIG EN AANLYN



AG BONSMARA Arthur de Villiers 082 564 8912 • Stephan Cronje 082 771 4044
AFSLAER Mike Killassy 082 378 8112 **BEMARKER** Johny Muller 082 829 5699

Terms and Conditions: 1.) All buyers must register and provide a copy of their ID as well as proof of address. 2.) Auction day – NO CASH. Payment by card or electronic transfer only. 3.) VAT is payable. 4.) The seller reserves the right to withdraw any item prior to or during the auction without prior notice. 5.) Vleissentraal's standard terms of sale (Auction Rules) apply – available at www.vleissentraal.co.za



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Ram Veiling

PREISS
& KOCK

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GENETIESE UITNEMENDHEID

'N OOI GEE JOU
2 LAMMERS
PER JAAR.
'N RAM GEE JOU
100 LAMMERS
PER JAAR.



DIS DIE EENVOUDIGSTE REKENKUNDE IN DIE SKAAPBOERDERY,
EN DIS OOK WAAROM DIE RAM WAT JY KOOP ÓF DIE DUURSTE
ÓF DIE GOEDKOOPSTE BESLUIT VAN JOU HELE SEISOEN IS.



Frankfort
Golf Klub



11 September
2026



Reinhardt Kock (082 373 5546) Eienaar
Danie de Wet (082 772 4537) BKB

*Genetika wat bly.
Prestasie wat tel.*

AANBIED DEUR



Die Betroubare Tuistehouer
The Trusted Home of Agriculture



NOORD-KAAP BRAHMANKLUB BULVEILING

16 SEPTEMBER '26 11:00 VRYBURG SKOUGRONDE



Op aanbod!

- 35 BULLE
- 30 STOET VROULIKE DIERE
- 200 KOMMERSIËLE VROULIKE DIERE



Bemarkers: Wouter Mentz - 082 944 0217 | Marco Salmonson - 078 079 0588

Stoet- & Spesiale Veilings: Ramona de Bruin - 083 319 8626

Afslaer: Theuns Visser - 082 338 1356

053 927 3871 info@nklh.co.za Industria Str 6, Vryburg, 8600



WWW.NKLH.CO.ZA



ILE DE FRANCE

ELITE SA

*Nasionale
Veiling*



19 SEPTEMBER 2026

AFRIDOME - PARYS, VRYSTAAT





AUCTIONS OF THE MONTH

AUGUST 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Kimberley Kroonstad Kuruman Stella	5 Christiana Hartswater K-Vee Olifantshoek	6 Mosplaas Hartswater G-Vee Tosca	7 Kuruman Bul- en Ramveiling Postmasburg Vryburg	8
9	10 Vrouedag	11 Kimberley Kroonstad Kuruman	12 Hartswater K-Vee Reivilo	13 Amalia Delareyville Hartswater G-Vee Vanzylsrus G-Vee	14	15
16	17	18 Kimberley Kroonstad Kuruman	19 Hartswater K-Vee Ottosdal Vanzylsrus K-Vee	20 Driefontein Hartswater G-Vee Stella	21 Postmasburg	22
23	24 Schweizer-Reneke	25 Kimberley Kroonstad Kuruman Piet Plessis	26 Postmasburg Lenteveiling Delareyville Hartswater K-Vee Warrenton	27 Hartswater G-Vee Winton Bloemhof Ganyesa	28 Vryburg	29
30	31 Aanlyn Speenkalfveiling 					

The Farmers' Choice

Auction results

ROCKY DROUGHTMASTERS VEILINGS- RESULTATE

28 JULIE 2026



ITEM	VERKOOP	GEMIDDELD	HOOGSTE
BULLE	24	R 91,250	R 280,000
KOEIE	1	R 28,000	R28,000
KOEIE & KALWERS	1	R 20,000	R 20,000
KOEI 3 IN 1	7	R 112,857.14	R 180,000
DRAGTIGE KOEI	7	R 57,428.57	R 150,000
DRAGTIGE VERS	11	R 61,000	R 160,000

7^{de} Produksieveiling



AFSLAER:
JOHAN VAN DER NEST

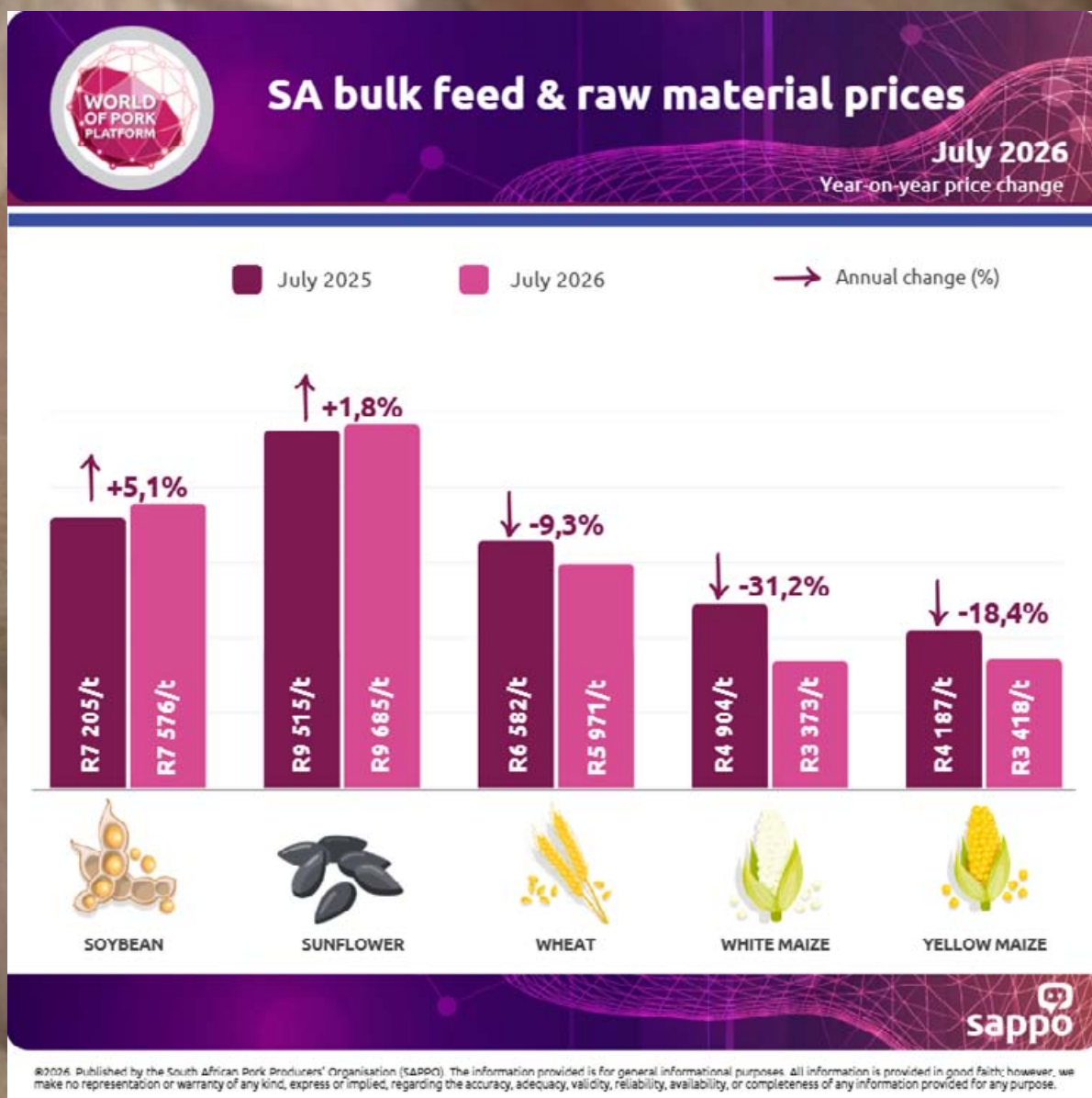
TERME & VOORWAARDES GELD

Did you know?



**WORLD
OF PORK**

**SA bulk feed & raw
material prices
July 2026**



Bulk feed prices increased during July 2026

The South African weighted average feed price reached R4,741/t in July 2026, 2,8% higher than in June 2026 and 16,2% lower than in July 2025. Yellow maize prices were 7,7% higher in July 2026 compared to June 2026 and 18,4% lower compared to July 2025. In July 2026, the producer price-to-feed price ratio reached 6,3.

[Download report](#)



FARM FRESH • HOMEMADE • TRADITION

VETKOEK and MINCE

Soft, golden vetkoek
filled with savoury, fragrant mince –
a true Boer favourite
that warms the heart and satisfies.



VETKOEK (MAKES ± 12)

INGREDIENTS



- 500 g cake flour
- 10 g (2 tsp) salt
- 10 g (2 tsp) sugar
- 10 g (2 tsp) instant yeast
- 300 ml lukewarm water
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) melted butter
- Oil for deep-frying

METHOD

1. Sift the dry ingredients into a large bowl.
2. Add the lukewarm water and oil and mix to a soft dough.
3. Knead for 8–10 minutes until smooth and elastic.
4. Place in a lightly greased bowl, cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled in size (± 1 hour).
5. Punch the dough down and divide into 12 equal pieces. Roll each piece into a ball and let rest for 10 minutes.
6. Flatten each ball to ± 1 cm thick. Heat oil in a deep pot to 170–180 °C and fry the vetkoek on each side until golden brown. Drain on paper towel.



Tip: The oil must be hot enough. If the vetkoek absorb too much oil, the oil was not hot enough.

MINCE (MAKES ± 6–8 SERVINGS)

INGREDIENTS



- 750 g minced beef
- 2 large onions, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) oil
- 2 tsp (10 ml) salt
- 1 tsp (5 ml) cumin
- 1 tsp (5 ml) coriander
- 1 tsp (5 ml) paprika
- 1 tsp (5 ml) curry powder (to taste)
- ½ tsp (2,5 ml) black pepper
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) tomato paste
- 2 potatoes, finely diced
- 125 ml (½ cup) water or a little more if needed

METHOD

1. Heat oil in a large pan and brown the mince until cooked and all the moisture has evaporated.
2. Add the onion and fry for 1 minute.
3. Add the garlic and fry until golden, stirring constantly.
4. Add the spices, tomato paste and potatoes. Stir well.
5. Add water, stir and simmer on medium heat for 15–20 minutes until the sauce thickens and the potatoes are tender. Season to taste.
6. Keep warm.

Simple. Honest. Delicious.

KEEP WARM AND
ENJOY GOOD FOOD!



MARKET PRICES

THE LATEST PRICES THAT IMPACT YOUR FARM, YOUR BUSINESS, YOUR FUTURE.

11 AUGUST 2026 | ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT WHERE APPLICABLE



LIVESTOCK PRICES

CATEGORY	UNIT	PRICE (R)	CHANGE*
Weaner Calves	/ head	22 100	↑ 2.8%
Feeder Steers	/ kg live	53.20	↑ 1.9%
Slaughter Steers (A2/A3)	/ kg carcass	69.50	↑ 1.4%
Slaughter Heifers (A2/A3)	/ kg carcass	68.20	↑ 1.3%
Cows (C2/C3)	/ kg live	36.30	↑ 1.7%
Bulls	/ kg live	42.10	↑ 1.6%

*Change compared to 4 August 2026



GRAINS & OILSEEDS

COMMODITY	UNIT	PRICE (R)	CHANGE*
Wheat	/ ton	5 460	↑ 1.2%
Yellow Maize	/ ton	4 210	↑ 0.9%
White Maize	/ ton	4 180	↑ 1.0%
Soybeans	/ ton	9 120	↑ 1.5%
Sunflower Seed	/ ton	8 750	↑ 1.3%
Sorghum	/ ton	3 950	↑ 1.0%
Canola Seed	/ ton	10 220	↑ 1.6%

*Change compared to 4 August 2026



BEEF PRICES (R / KG CARCASS)

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE (R)	CHANGE*
A1	Prime	78.80	↑ 1.6%
A2	Rump / Topside	72.50	↑ 1.4%
A3	Chuck / Blade	67.80	↑ 1.3%
B2	Brisket / Rib	61.50	↑ 1.1%
C2	Manufacturing	53.40	↑ 1.0%
D2	Culls	41.20	↑ 0.9%

*Change compared to 4 August 2026

GOLD PRICE

ZAR PER GRAM

24 Carat	R1 662.50	↑ 1.8%
22 Carat	R1 523.60	↑ 1.7%
18 Carat	R1 247.30	↑ 1.6%
14 Carat	R 971.40	↑ 1.5%

LAMB PRICES (R / KG CARCASS)			
CLASS	PRICE	CHANGE*	
A2	77.60	↑ 1.5%	
A3	70.10	↑ 1.3%	
B2	62.40	↑ 1.2%	
C2	53.20	↑ 1.0%	
D2	41.30	↑ 0.9%	

PORK PRICES (R / KG CARCASS)		
CUT	PRICE (R)	CHANGE*
Purker (avg)	36.80	↑ 1.2%
Baconer	38.90	↑ 1.3%
Sow	22.10	↑ 1.0%

POULTRY PRICES (R / KG LIVE WEIGHT)		
PRODUCT	PRICE (R)	CHANGE*
Whole Broiler	24.60	↑ 0.8%
IQF Portions	32.30	↑ 0.9%
Day-old Chicks	11.20	↑ 0.7%
Eggs (Large)	2.45	↑ 0.6%

CRUDE OIL PRICE (BRENT)	
USD PER BARREL	
\$75.84	↑ 1.2%
(R1 393.60 per barrel)	

*Change compared to 4 August 2026



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content.



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INCLUDING EDITING

R3 500

★★ PER DAY ★★

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 - ✓ Professional editing included
 - ✓ High quality final product
 - ✓ Ready for web, social media and branding
 - ✓ One price. No hidden costs.
- ✚ Extra day (due to unforeseen circumstances):
R1 500 per day
*Includes accommodation, meals
and refreshments.
One flat price.*



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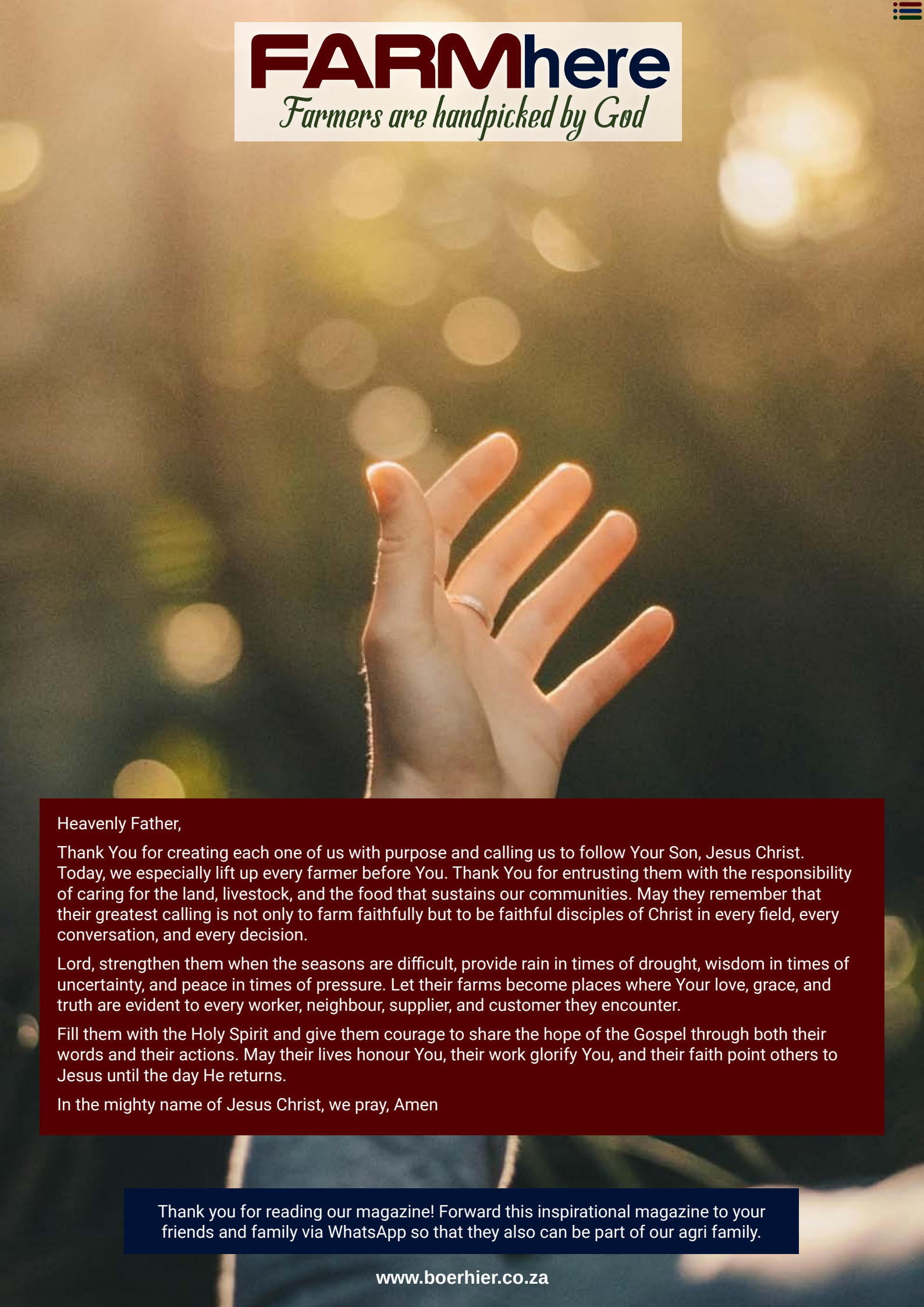
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FARMhere

Farmers are handpicked by God

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for creating each one of us with purpose and calling us to follow Your Son, Jesus Christ. Today, we especially lift up every farmer before You. Thank You for entrusting them with the responsibility of caring for the land, livestock, and the food that sustains our communities. May they remember that their greatest calling is not only to farm faithfully but to be faithful disciples of Christ in every field, every conversation, and every decision.

Lord, strengthen them when the seasons are difficult, provide rain in times of drought, wisdom in times of uncertainty, and peace in times of pressure. Let their farms become places where Your love, grace, and truth are evident to every worker, neighbour, supplier, and customer they encounter.

Fill them with the Holy Spirit and give them courage to share the hope of the Gospel through both their words and their actions. May their lives honour You, their work glorify You, and their faith point others to Jesus until the day He returns.

In the mighty name of Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen

Thank you for reading our magazine! Forward this inspirational magazine to your friends and family via WhatsApp so that they also can be part of our agri family.