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ADAMA

Sunflower Farming in South Africa

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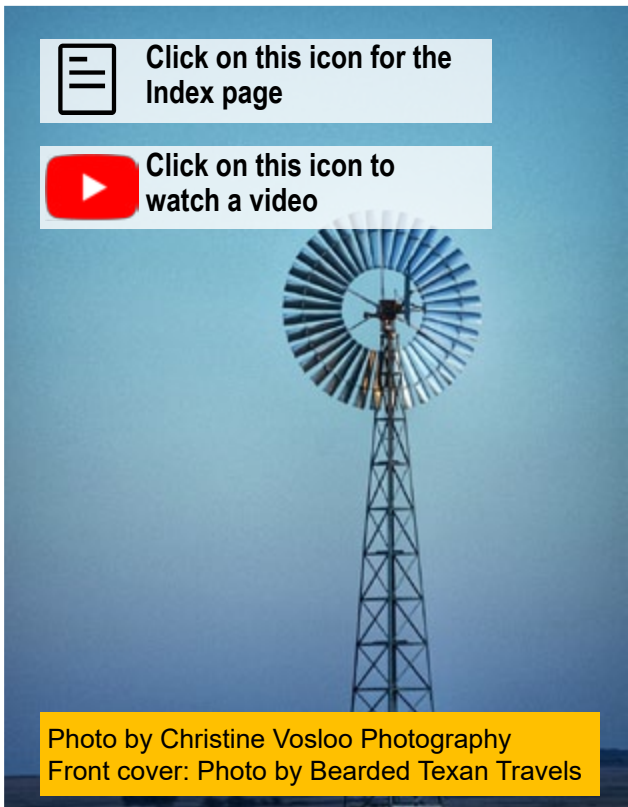

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Courage in Jesus

John 9:6-27

This man showed great courage in confronting these religious leaders. Even Peter later backed down for fear of this same group of men (Lk. 22:54-62). Certainly one thing that gave him this boldness was that he knew what Jesus had done for him. And even beyond the physical healing, he knew that Jesus had healed him because He loved him. It's our security in the Lord's love for us that gives us the strength to face rejection from others. As Proverbs 28:1 puts it, 'the righteous are bold as a lion.' The antidote for fear of men is a large dose of the love of God.

One of the greatest truths of the Bible and one of the hardest to comprehend, is that we are the objects of God's love. God didn't just pity us or feel some sense of moral obligation to save us. He saved us because of His infinite love for us (Jn. 3:16). An experiential understanding of God's love is the key to being filled with all the fullness of God (Eph. 3:19).

Paul prays in Ephesians 3:19, that we would experience the love of God which passes mere knowledge about it. How can we know the love of God if it passes knowledge? This sounds like a contradiction. It's not. The knowing is experiencing it. The end result of having understanding and experiential knowledge of God's love is that we will be filled with all the fullness of God. God's love is the key that opens the door to everything that God is. God is love (1 Jn. 4:8).

It's not just a casual acquaintance with God's love that we need, but an intimate understanding and experiential knowledge of the depths of God's love. Just as a tree's roots provide stability and nourishment for the tree, so our revelation of God's love is the foundation upon which everything else we receive from God is built.

Sunflower Farming in South Africa

Discover the promising sunflower farming industry in South Africa, including soil requirements, planting, and harvesting, with challenges to consider like pests and diseases.

Sunflowers belong to the genus Helianthus ('helios' means sun and "anthos" means flower). Each flower head is made up of up to 2 000 individual little flowers, and the leaves are phototropic, tracking the sun.

There are almost 70 different species and while small varieties make cheerful cut flowers, the hybrid oilseed commercial cultivars can reach almost 5m in height.

The seeds are used for oil, bird seed and human consumption. Sunflower oil is used in food preparation, for biofuel, cosmetics and skin care products. The meal and cake are used for animal feed.

Production is suitable for many South African climatic conditions as the plants are drought tolerant. The deep root system and short growth period can help them to perform better than other crops during dry seasons. Sunflowers are therefore a good rotation crop, offering stability and a bit of security.

Harvesting sunflower seeds

Sunflower crop cultivation in South Africa

Almost 80% of South Africa's sunflower production is concentrated in the North West and Free State provinces. Soils should be sandy loam, with a clay percentage of less than 20%. Farmers plant sunflower seeds between November and January, while harvesting happens between late April and mid-May.

Between 2009 and 2021, the average area under sunflower cultivation in South Africa was 552 000 ha, with a mean production of 715 000t/year over this period.

According to Dr André van der Vyver, of the South African Cereals and Oilseeds Traders' Association, hectares under sunflowers have reduced over the past few years due to a decline in profitability compared with other commodities: "The increase in maize yields far exceeds that of sunflower seed, which has remained nearly static," he says.

"This is unfortunate, as [this] is an especially important commodity given its drought tolerance and higher tolerance for cold towards the end of the growing season. It's also used in rotation with other commodities."

It is essential that growers choose the correct varieties of sunflowers for their lands (see below). In making this decision, the ARC-Grain Crops Institute advises growers to consider "not just the yield, but also yield stability, yield potential and yield probability according to a realistic yield

potential for each field. The stability of a cultivar is determined by the closer the R2 value is to 1 and the smaller the F probability is (preferably < 0,1)".

Once the right cultivar has been chosen, fields need to be prepared for planting. This involves ploughing and harrowing as well as applying fertilisers according to scientific soil analysis. Ideally, half of the nitrogen requirement should be applied during planting and the other half 30–40 days after emergence.

A pre-emergence herbicide, like ADAMA's Alanex 384 EC, is important to ensure the seedbed is free of weeds – good weed control is essential for the first 45 days. Some hybrids also allow for a post-emergence application.

Once the field has been prepared, growers can begin to plant. They will need to choose a date that is appropriate for their region but, according to the ARC-Grain Crops Institute (ARC), planting should not be left to January or February – "planting from November up to mid-December will benefit yield significantly".

It is important to plant the seeds at the correct depth and to space them evenly. ARC advises that in most cases, "sandy soils that tend to dry out quicker will necessitate deeper planting depth. Avoid poorly drained soils, as well as highly acidic soils… It is essential to run a millipede rotary harrow (*duisendpoot*) over your newly planted crop three to four days after planting, because a hard crust also causes a poor stand." The optimal plant density per hectare is 35 000–42 000 plants with a row width of 0,91cm, they add.

Fields should be monitored for problems such as weeds, insects and diseases. If problems are found, corrective action should be taken to prevent them from damaging the crop.

Once the flowers reach maturity, farmers will need to harvest sunflower seeds and the seeds will need to be cleaned and processed. This often involves removing the hulls and then crushing the seeds to extract the oil.

Varieties of sunflowers planted in South Africa

According to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's Sunflower Production: A Concise Guide, "Choosing the right cultivars is one way of ensuring higher profits at no extra cost… yield and yield reliability are by far the most important criteria when cultivars are evaluated".

John Odendaal, national marketing manager at Pannar Seed, believes "the future of the sunflower industry lies in higher-yield cultivars and those with a high oil content" and that breeding companies must increasingly focus their efforts on breeding hybrids with a higher oil content. "Profitability will then be judged under different criteria, and sunflower will be weighed up against soya bean instead of maize."

Sunflower pests and diseases

Challenges facing growers include damage caused by insects and birds, weed control and diseases such as brown rust, Sclerotinia head rot, bacterial head rot and Alternaria leaf blight.

Senior Economist at Grain SA Corné Louw has noted that Sclerotinia played a significant role in the decline in sunflower plantings, and that the disease has now reached production regions where it was previously unknown.

However, the percentage of samples that contained sclerotia in the 2020/21 season decreased to 22%, from 71% and 51% in the previous two seasons. And the Southern African Grain Laboratory reported that "None of the samples received exceeded the maximum permissible deviation of 4%. The national average of 0.06% is the lowest since the 2015/16 season. Last season's average was 0.55%."

ADAMA products for crop protection

ADAMA offers a number of herbicides registered for pre-emergent weed control and post-emergence (depending on the variety of sunflower planted), as well as a fungicide for the control of powdery mildew in sunflower fields. Find more information view our crop protection solutions.

South Africa's imports and exports of sunflowers

The United Nations says that Ukraine and Russia, the world's top producers and exporters of sunflower seed and oil, together account for over 50 percent of world production. According to Earth Daily Agro, the war in Ukraine will "most likely disrupt not only the [2022] season's production but also the supply chain due to lack of access to sea ports."

Grain SA notes that demand for sunflower exports is minimal but that "over the past five years, sunflower imports have decreased significantly and this can be attributed to the increased crushing capacity locally and the use of locally produced sunflower. During years of lower sunflower production, the activities at crushing plants are reduced and the refineries import more crude oil, as it is more cost-effective than importing sunflower seeds."

In the 2020/21 season, the area farmed had decreased to 477 800 ha, the lowest since the 2011/12 season. The national yield average decreased by 10% to 1.42 t/ha from 1.58 t/ha the previous season, and the final commercial sunflower crop figure for the 2020/21 season was 678 000 tons.

However, the following season saw a turnaround, however, and in June 2022, the National Agricultural Marketing Council projected that South Africa would produce its second-largest harvest of sunflower seed. Between March and September 2022, deliveries from farms reached 832 348 tons, and 134 tons of seed were exported.

Forecasts by The Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP) Baseline, Agricultural Outlook 2021 – 2030, suggest that sunflower yields will improve by almost 30%, due to improvements in farming practices and high-oil cultivars. This improvement will be sufficient to supply the growth in domestic demand.

Source: https://www.adama.com/south-africa/en/sunflower-farming/sunflower-farming-south-africa#:~:text=According%20to%20Dr%20Andr%C3%A9%20van,sunflower%20seed%2C%20which%20has%20remained

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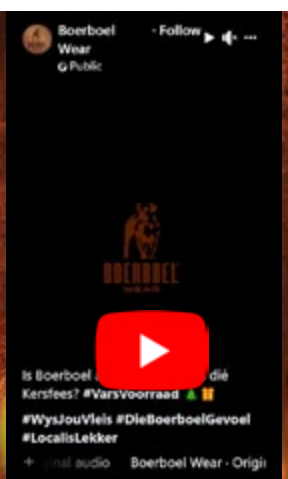
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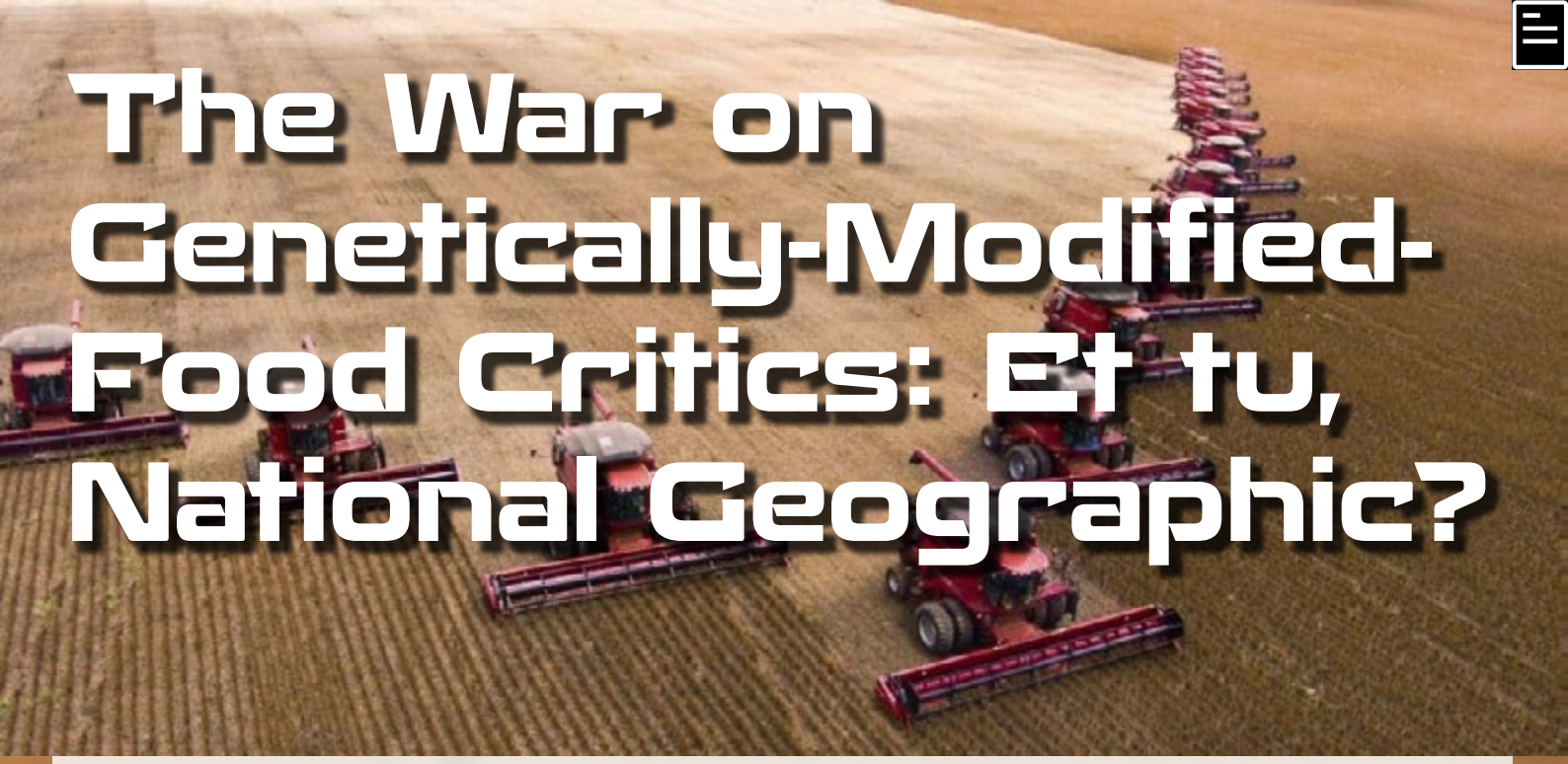

The War on Genetically-Modified-Food Critics: Et tu, National Geographic?

Since when is the safety of genetically modified food considered "settled science" on a par with the reality of evolution? That was the question that jumped to mind when I saw the cover of the March 2015 National Geographic and the lead article, "Why Do Many Reasonable People Doubt Science?"

The cover title: "The War on Science." The image: a movie set of a fake moon landing. Superimposed: a list of irrational battles being waged by "science doubters" against an implied scientific consensus:

- "Climate change does not exist."
- "Evolution never happened."
- "The moon landing was faked."
- "Vaccinations can lead to autism."
- "Genetically modified food is evil." WHAT?

Genetically modified food is evil? First of all, what business does "evil" have in an article about scientific consensus? Sure, some people think GMOs are evil. But isn't the controversy about whether genetically modified food is safe?

More important, what was such an item doing on a list of issues on which the vast majority of scientists would indeed have consensus? How in the world does author Joel Achenbach define "scientific consensus?" How about 95 percent of the peer-reviewed literature, as in the case of climate change? Near 100 percent, as in the case of the lack of any link between autism and vaccines, or on evolution, or the reality of the moon landing?

There is no such consensus on the safety of GM food. A peer-reviewed study of the research, from peer-reviewed journals, found that about half of the animal-feeding studies conducted in recent years found cause for concern. The other half didn't, and as the researchers noted, "most of these studies have been conducted by biotechnology companies responsible of commercializing these GM plants."

In other words, those studies are tainted by the same conflict of interest that the article itself denounced in the case of anti-climate-change research commissioned by oil companies. The only consensus that GM food is safe is among industry-funded researchers.

So why would the respected National Geographic make such a scientific error? And why would respected Washington Post science writer Joel Achenbach include GM safety on his list of "settled" science?

Product placement for GMOs

Call it product placement. You know, the nearly subliminal advertising technique in which Coca Cola pays a movie producer to have the characters all drink Coke. Biotechnology companies and their powerful advocates, like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, are

succeeding in a well-planned campaign to get GM safety declared "settled science."

The article itself hardly touches the GM controversy or the science. It focuses on the interesting and important question of how people, including scientists, interpret scientific evidence in a way tainted by "confirmation bias," the tendency to more readily believe evidence that confirms one's existing beliefs. Achenbach could have added science writers to the list. And magazine editors.

Achenbach focuses on climate change and evolution and vaccines, mainly. GMOs? In what amounts to a throw-away paragraph, after he's made justifiable fun of anti-fluoride scare-mongering, he writes:

"We're asked to accept, for example, that it's safe to eat food containing genetically modified organisms (GMOs) because, the experts point out, there's no evidence that it isn't and no reason to believe that altering genes precisely in a lab is more dangerous than altering them wholesale through traditional breeding. But to some people the very idea of transferring genes between species conjures up mad scientists running amok—and so, two centuries after Mary Shelley wrote Frankenstein, they talk about Frankenfood."

What? "The experts point out?" Some do, some don't. "There's no evidence that it isn't" safe to eat GMOs? What kind of science is that? Many experts would disagree, and they would certainly object to a safety standard for a new technology that is content with the epidemiologically shabby construct that if there's no evidence something isn't safe, it must be safe.

Thalidomide, anyone, with a pinch of DDT? What's going on here?

Are we "depolarized" yet?

What we're seeing is a concerted campaign to do exactly what *National Geographic* has knowingly or unknowingly done: paint GMO critics as anti-science while offering no serious discussion of the scientific controversy that still rages.

An indicator was a quiet announcement in the press last summer that the Gates Foundation had awarded a US$5.6 million grant to Cornell University to "depolarize" the debate over GM foods. That's their word. The grant founded a new institute, the Cornell Alliance for Science.

"Our goal is to depolarize the GMO debate and engage with potential partners who may share common values around poverty reduction and sustainable agriculture, but may not be well informed about the potential biotechnology has for solving major agricultural challenges," said project leader Sarah Evanega, senior associate director of International Programs in Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS).

Got it? The Gates Foundation is paying biotech scientists and advocates at Cornell to help them convince the ignorant and brainwashed public, who "may not be well informed," that they are ignorant and brainwashed.

"Improving agricultural biotechnology communications is a challenge that must be met if innovations developed in public sector institutions like Cornell are ever to reach farmers in their fields," added Kathryn J. Boor, the Ronald P. Lynch Dean of CALS.

It's kind of like depolarizing an armed conflict by giving one side more weapons.

So what you're seeing in *National Geographic* is the product of improved "agricultural biotechnology communications."

And not just there. In the last year we've seen the New Yorker's slimy takedown of anti-GMO campaigner Vandana Shiva, and prominent opinion pieces by scientists, researchers, and journalists painting GMO critics as anti-science, the food policy equivalents of climate deniers and creationists.

I saw the PR machine in action in Des Moines in 2013 at the World Food Prize awards, which went that year to three biotech scientists, one from Monsanto. (It was of course pure coincidence that

Monsanto had underwritten the renovation of the beautiful old building that houses the World Food Prize empire.)

At a panel discussion there the audience got heavily depolarized. Ann Glover, a European Science Advisor and designated GM bulldog, actually called anyone who still questioned the safety of GM crops “brainwashed.” Journalist Mark Lynas, who has made a career of such demonization, added his own insults.

I was sitting next to former World Food Prize winner Hans Herren, who won the prize in the 1990s for his innovative, cost-effective biological pest-control campaign that saved the African cassava crop. Brainwashed?

The consensus: There is no consensus

The consensus on the safety of GM food is perfectly clear: there is no consensus. That’s what the independent peer-reviewed literature says. And that’s what the *National Geographic’s* beautiful exhibit on its food series, in its Washington headquarters, says: the “long-term health and ecological consequences are unknown.“ And that is an accurate statement of the consensus, or the lack of it.

The paid shills for the petroleum industry undermined a growing consensus on climate change that was inconvenient for industry, backed by a well-funded PR campaign sowing doubt about that scientific consensus. In this case, the biotechnology industry and its allies are declaring a consensus where there is none in order to silence their critics.

The debate is over what level of precaution we should apply before allowing the large-scale commercialization of this new technology. And anyone stating that there is a scientific consensus on GM safety is coming down squarely against precaution. Reasonable people disagree, and that does not make them “science doubters.”

Are you feeling depolarized yet?

Timothy A. Wise

Source: https://foodtank.com/news/2015/02/the-war-on-genetically-modified-food-critics-et-tu-national-geographic/

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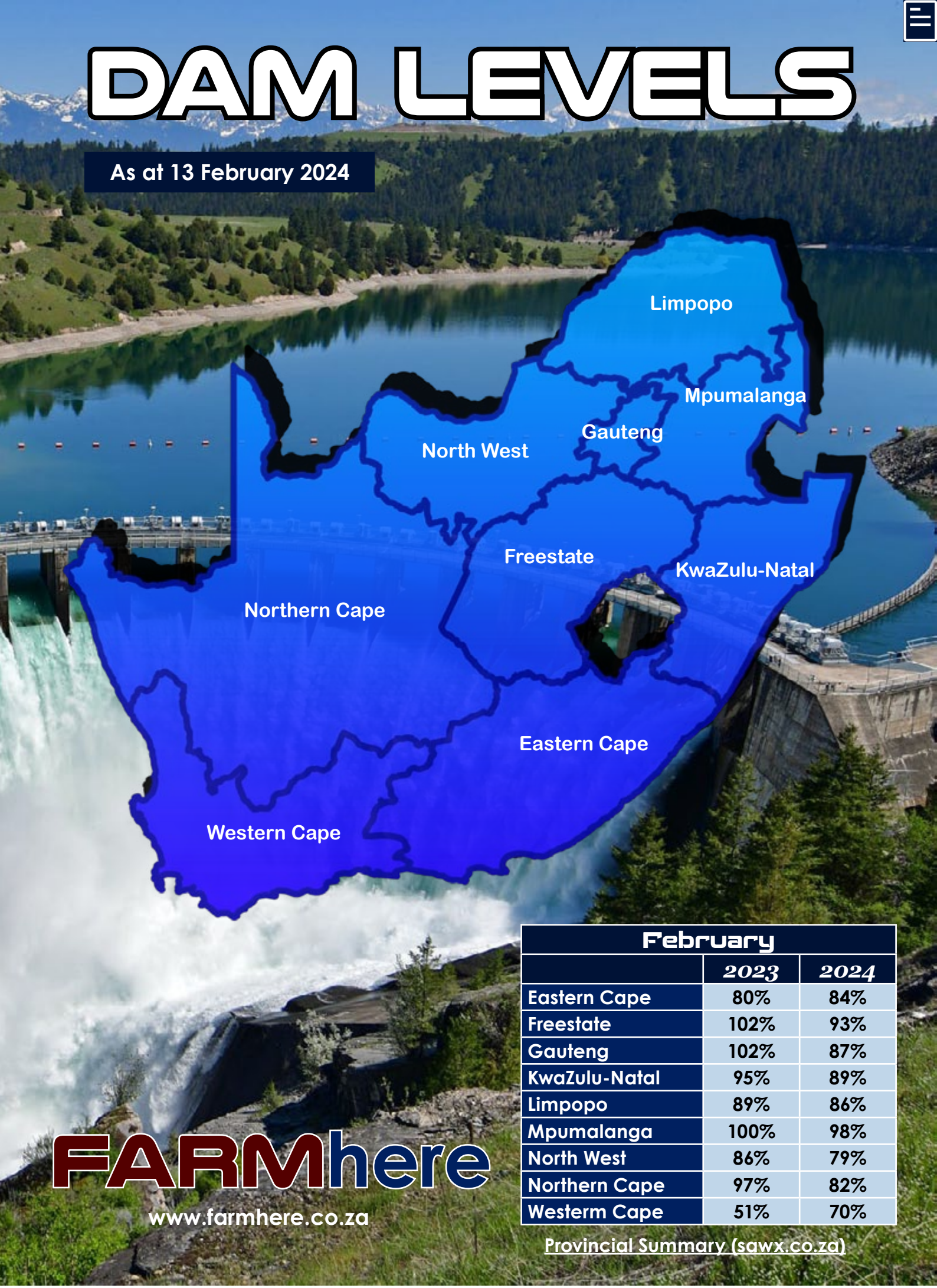

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Biosecurity only defence against African swine fever

As the rest of South Africa fights the disastrous Coronavirus, in the Eastern Cape, farmers and government officials are also currently battling with the African Swine Fever (ASF) outbreak, which if left uncontrolled can spread throughout the rest of the country laying waste to hundreds of thousands of pigs, says Elizna Erasmus, Ruminant and Biosecurity Specialist at Bupo Animal Health.

"Unfortunately, there is no vaccine or treatment for the African swine fever and the fatality rate is close to 100% once contracted. When it has made its way onto a farm; all pigs, whether they have contracted the disease or not will need to be culled. This endemic has the economic potential to ravage the pig farming industry and the millions of consumers who depend on pork as their source of protein," says Erasmus.

According to the South African Pork Producers Organisation, there are about 165 commercial pig farmers in South Africa with about 115,000 sows with South Africa consuming about 2000 tonnes of pork meat (fresh and processed) per year.

Erasmus says while the African swine fever is not harmful to humans, it spreads rapidly between pigs and almost all pigs in a sounder of swine may die within seven to ten days. According to the Department of Agriculture, clinical signs and mortality rates can vary according to the virulence of the virus and the type/species of pig. Acute forms of ASF are characterised by high fever, depression, anorexia and loss of appetite, haemorrhages in the skin (redness of skin on ears, abdomen and legs), abortion in pregnant sows, cyanosis, vomiting, diarrhoea and death.

Subacute and chronic forms are caused by moderately or low virulent viruses, which produce less intense clinical signs that can be expressed for much longer periods. Mortality rates are lower, but can still range from 30-70%. Chronic disease symptoms include loss of weight, intermittent fever, respiratory signs, chronic skin ulcers and arthritis. Erasmus says the only effective way farmers can deal with the contagion is through effective biosecurity practices.

"Farmers must have strict biosecurity measures in place. In addition, they need to limit the number of visitors that come onto their farms. When visitors do come on to the farm, they must pass through a foot bath to kill any micro-organisms that may have attached themselves to their shoes. The same goes for vehicles, they must pass through a wheel dip and vehicle spray to cleanse them of any micro-organisms. Instilling a culture of impeccable hand hygiene amongst every individual operating on a pig farm will also reduce the risk of spread," explains Erasmus.

Biosecurity range products cater to all the above-mentioned needs as they can be used to be used by all individuals on the farm. The multi-purpose disinfectants are suitable to be used in footbaths

and vehicle sprays as well as a detergent and a decontaminator to use in the cleaning of the animal housing. Other products can even be used to purify the drinking water.

“This next bit sounds painfully obvious, but it is imperative to ensure a supply of clean drinking water is available at all times and that the animals’ housing is regularly cleaned. Cleaning will consist of the removal of all organic material, and once the pens have been thoroughly swept, they need to be scrubbed down and disinfected to sterilize the premise. This must be carried out as often as possible, especially in the midst of an outbreak,” explains Erasmus.

Historically, outbreaks have been reported in Africa and parts of Europe, South America, and the Caribbean. Due to an increase in demand of pork, the disease has been reported in multiple countries across Africa, Asia and Europe, in both domestic and wild pigs.

“The virus is spread by ticks found on wild pigs and by viral particles that can remain dormant on surfaces for about four years. While a lot of farmers are aware of ASF that could wipe out their livestock, biosecurity on farms is still not taken seriously enough. Meanwhile, especially for the current African swine fever, biosecurity practices are the only measures that can prevent the spread of the virus and save the potential loss that farmers and consumers could be faced with,” concludes Erasmus.

Source: https://sappo.org/lets-talk-indepth/biosecurity-only-defence-against-african-swine-fever/

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Breeds of Sheep for Meat in South Africa

© Ile de France Sheep Breeder's Society of South Africa
The French breed Ille de France was introduced in 1903. It is a meat breed, but can be sheared for wool production.

Sheep Farming in South Africa

In South Africa, sheep are commercially farmed for either meat or wool, but certain breeds yield good quality and quantity of both. This article will focus on sheep breeds used in South Africa for meat production only. Apart from the most commonly farmed breeds listed below, there are also developing breeds in SA, such as the Boesmanlander and the Bezuidenhout.

Dorper Sheep

The Dorper sheep was developed in South Africa and bred through the crossbreeding of the Persian sheep, Dorset and Van Rooy sheep. This resulted in a hardy, fast-growing meat breed suitable for low-rainfall regions.

The Dorper is a large and strongly-built meat sheep with a white body and black head. This fast-growing fertile breed produces lambs that are slaughter-ready at four months. The breed does not require shearing and its skin - with a smooth grain and no creasing - can be used for leather.

Black-headed Persian Sheep

The Black-headed Persian sheep is an ancient meat breed, and is believed to have originated in Somalia or the Middle East. The Persian (or 'Persie' in Afrikaans) is a fat-tailed sheep, covered in hair and is, therefore, well-adapted to hot, arid climates. The hornless sheep have long drooping ears, similar to goats. The three colour varieties of the Persian are the blackhead (90%), redhead (4%) and the speckled Persian (6%). Persians are excellent mothers with an even temperament. The breeding interval is 8 months and a high percentage of twins are produced.

It is bred exclusively for its meat, although its skin - the blackhead Persian specifically - can be used for the production of thin, high-grade leather products. The Persian is more resistant to disease than other sheep breeds and has been used for breeding with other breeds to improve their meat production.

Ile de France Sheep

The Ile de France sheep is a French meat breed, introduced in South Africa in 1903 for research. Commercial farming with this breed only started in the 1970s. The Ile de France is a large, smooth-bodied polled meat breed, producing strong white wool of 23 - 27 micron. Wool can contribute up to 20% of this breed's income. However, most consider the Ile de France a meat breed only, due to the rams' use in crossbreeding, to produce heavy early-maturing slaughter-ready lambs. First lambing is at 23 months, with little birthing problems. The Ile de France can be used for their milk and is classified as a dairy sheep in the USA.

Van Rooy Sheep

©Van Rooy Breeders Association of South Africa
The white Van Rooy sheep is a meat breed developed in South Africa and has white hair, prominent dewlap and a fat tail and rump.

A South African 'developed' meat sheep, the fertile Van Rooy sheep was bred to thrive in the drier climates of Southern Africa, typical of fat-tail breeds. The Van Rooy is a medium to large hornless sheep covered with white hair, with a thin wool undercoat on the front part of the body. It has a prominent chest with a dewlap and a fat tail. Fat distribution is localised in the rump and tail. Its thick skin makes the Van Rooy less susceptible to external parasites.

The fertile Van Rooy produce and raise lambs in extremely harsh conditions. It is often used in crossbreeding, due to its unique gene pool. Age of first lambing is 16 months. The Van Rooy exhibits a fast growth rate, and rams are often used to crossbreed with other sheep breeds, to produce lambs with good growth rate and early fat accumulation.

Meatmaster Sheep

The Meatmaster sheep is another South African-developed meat breed, bred from the Damara, Dorper, Van Rooy and Ile de France breeds. The aim was to develop a hardy, fertile, meat sheep with low input costs, suitable for veld grazing systems. The Meatmaster was registered as a breed in 2007 and the Meatmaster Breed Society was established in 2008.

The Meatmaster is a non-fat tail medium-sized sheep, covered in a coat of short shiny hair of various colours and has a short woolly undercoat. The Meatmaster 100-day weaning weight is 27 kg. Meatmaster lambs can be slaughtered at five months of age, at around 38 kg, and may yield a carcass of 17.5 kg.

By Marinda Louw

Source: https://southafrica.co.za/breeds-sheep-meat-south-africa.html

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Agriculture Technology Examples – Top 5 Innovations

Agriculture in the world is facing numerous challenges, including climate change, increasing demand for food and biomass, growing natural increase, or a labor shortage. Due to these hurdles, as well as technological development, today's farms operate in a completely different way than those from a few decades ago.

Large investments in innovation that have taken place in recent years have resulted in the development of indoor vertical farming, livestock technology, greenhouse practices, automation and robotics, and more. Also, other tech-based solutions such as AI, IoT, and blockchain found their use in improving the farming industry. Which of these agricultural innovations are top-class choices? What is the future of precision farming? Keep reading to find out.

What is meant by agricultural technology?

The scale of demand for agricultural products and resources has grown so much that it has become impossible to meet these requirements with manpower only. As a result, agricultural technologies appeared on the market to streamline and automate farming activities, and by those technologies, we mean every tech-based solution that helps farmers to manage fields, treat crops, and monitor them. To put it simply, agricultural innovations are digitalized methods that support the growth control and harvesting of vegetable and animal products.

An example of agricultural technology is satellite imaging that allows farmers to track the conditions of their crops without visiting a certain location or precision agriculture that provides more accurate methods necessary for seeding and growing crops. Also, advanced AI and devices supported by it can provide more specific data and automate monitoring completely. There are many use cases for today's wide range of farming innovations – let's see how they help.

How does technology help in agriculture?

Over the recent years, we couldn't help but notice that agricultural technology has greatly improved farming productivity. Almost any process could have been automated. This means that farmers don't have to struggle with the tiring daily tasks that were demanding physically and took up a lot of time. With the increasing demand for products, so did the need to employ more human labor. Meanwhile, one of the main problems faced by the agricultural sector was the shortage of workers. Farm automation or so-called 'smart farming' and solutions related to it came with a rescue. Many farmers who wanted, or needed, to take action to develop their business have invested in robotics such as autonomous tractors, robotic harvesters, automatic watering, and seeding. This resulted not only in filling the gap for the missing employees but also in significant increases in results and cost reduction.

Moreover, farmers have to reckon with some natural challenges such as unpredictable weather conditions and climate change. Thus, relying solely on traditional farms to produce as much food and products as the world demands would

be difficult. Fortunately, thanks to agricultural technology, production can be moved indoors. Greenhouses, hoop houses, vertical and container farms, even though they may not be new to the agricultural market, they have never had such an impact as they do nowadays. It is estimated that globally in the area of 50 billion square feet of indoor farms, almost $ 350 billion is produced of vegetables every year.

Finally, often overlooked but certainly not less important, livestock farming also benefited from agricultural technologies. It is a vital branch of the farming industry that provides renewable and natural resources of daily needs. For example, special sensors capable of monitoring animal's health enabled farmers to care for and manage the livestock more efficiently.

What are the new technologies used in agriculture?

Drones and satellite imaging – advanced technologies have changed the way remote satellite imaging works. Farmers all over the world can benefit from real-time crop monitoring. Good quality pictures and videos delivered by satellites and drones allow farmers to examine crops as precisely as if they were standing on a field. Reviewing those records on a regular basis can save farms a lot of time and money. Moreover, you can combine this solution with soil and water sensors to send an alert whenever any adverse conditions appear.

Precision farming – is a new trend in an agricultural industry that provides farmers with pertinent information and methods necessary for seeding, growing, and harvesting crops. This technology is mostly about increasing efficiency; however, it could also result in better management of expenses. Innovations developed for precision agriculture by agriculture companies allow farmers to measure crop variables such as moisture content, soil condition, or pest stress. The global precision agriculture market is expected to reach USD 43.4 billion by 2025.

Farm Automation – robotic innovations such as drones, autonomous tractors, computer vision, or automatic seeding and watering devices have the potential to enhance the efficiency of any agricultural company. Such solutions save a lot of time and resolve a labor shortage problem as machines come into play. They can do more work in a shorter period, and human support is usually required only to set up the device's settings.

Soil and Water Sensors – compared with other technological advances, this solution is relatively simple and economical. However, it can also provide the most immediate effect of all. Sensors allow examining the soil's moisture and nitrogen level. Thus, farmers know which parts of their crops need watering or fertilizing. As a result, available resources are used only when there is a real necessity, so you get to manage them more efficiently and be more eco-friendly.

Weather Tracking – It is common for farms to experience some damage due to inadequate or insufficient weather estimations. If farmers relied only on TV weather forecasts, the situation would be even worse. Luckily, technological advancements such as online services dedicated exclusively to agriculture come with a rescue. Farmers can access them from their mobiles and take appropriate precautions in time to minimize the losses.

Technology of Mini-chromosomes – two major issues put today's agriculture in jeopardy. We are talking about growing natural increase (and, in effect, growing demand for more food) and the necessity to maintain sustainable farm management. The technology of mini-chromosomes addresses them both. Mini-chromosome is a tiny structure containing a cell that can add dozens of traits to a plant without altering its original chromosomes. This could result, for example, in drought tolerance and nitrogen use.

Artificial Intelligence – advanced technology such as remote sensing, satellites, or UAVs allow farmers to gather information about crops, soil, and weather conditions. These digital tools can

monitor plant health, humidity, soil pH level, and more. Sensors collect as much data as possible and create algorithms that can later be adapted to machine learning techniques.

Blockchain – not every challenge in the agricultural industry has to happen directly on a field. Food fraud, safety measurements, supply chain efficiency, and compliance with policies are some of the obstacles to overcome if you point to driving a successful farming business. Blockchain is capable of improving food traceability. It can provide you with the data on product location and threats appearing on the way. Furthermore, blockchain technology enables establishing a digital ledger that adds value to the current market and allows farmers to improve their trading.

5 examples of appropriate technology in agriculture

Appropriate technology is a technology that answers the needs of small-scale activities. It is an approach that focuses on local people and fits challenges identified by them. Provided solutions should address those issues with regard to the needs of poor farmers and limited natural resources. To put it simply, appropriate technology is an approach based on scalable and sustainable solutions that improve smallholder farmers' livelihood and protect the environment. Let's dive into some examples of such solutions.

1. Agro-ecological Technology

Agro-ecological technology is instrumental in third-world countries. Such an approach allowed farmers to integrate natural resources to contribute to the agricultural industry, e.g., farmers used organic residue as a soil fertilizer. Methods based on agroecological technology allow farmers to benefit from these innovations in producing large amounts of food. Water harvesting, soil improvement, or elimination of pesticide residue may not be as impressive as some more advanced technologies; however, these are the changes that make the best possible use of available resources.

2. Research-based Technologies

When it comes to research-based technologies, the first example that comes to mind is Green Revolution. It is the set of research technology transfer initiatives that over the years have increased agricultural productivity worldwide.

Green Revolution resulted in the adoption of new technologies and modern scientific approaches to farming. Also, the revolution played a crucial role in our world's sustainability as it saved millions of acres of forests.

3. Food Processing and Storage

Another example of appropriate technology is about food preservation and post-harvest processing. Many farmers lack the possibility of storing their products and need to sell them immediately after harvesting. A huge setback here is that prices are the lowest at that moment, so there is no chance for any major income. Luckily, there were several solutions, such as, for example, safe irradiation practices, developed to enhance the product longevity and nutrition.

4. Alternative Energy Sources

Electricity is still a major issue in mary poor and rural areas. Alternative energies are an excellent example of appropriate solutions to this issue. Harnessing renewable energy sources like wind or solar can be an effective and sustainable way to improve poor farmers' productivity and help to protect the environment.

5. Information and Communication Technologies

ICT (Information and Communication Technology) is another technology that could improve the livelihood of poor farmers. For example, in villages of Bangladesh, people invest in cell phones to then rent 'phone time' to their neighbors, who in return get higher prices for their crops with the possibility to provide real-time market information. In India, farmers use the internet to monitor weather forecasts or communicate directly with their customers.

Which country is advanced in agriculture technology?

Agriculture is one of the most important industries in the world, advancing mainly in developing countries. It provides all the necessary supplies, food and is also one of the main sources of employment. Moreover, technological innovations significantly improve farming businesses all over the world. Thus, many countries are competing for first place in farming innovations, including New Zealand, the Netherlands, China, Japan, the USA or Brazil.

The American farming market is one of the pioneers in the implementation of advanced technologies in agriculture. Its cultivation industry has experienced a colossal transformation due to the growing demand for 'green' farming practices, rising population, and high-income increase. Diverse agricultural start-ups and technology innovators are creating new intelligent systems. As a result, farmers can improve the production yield by enhancing inputs and a well-planned market strategy. The USA Smart Farming market is anticipated to reach $11.93 billion by 2023.

Future of technology solutions in agriculture

Over the past century, agriculture has undergone a radical industrialization process driven by a series of technological innovations designed to maximize production efficiency. Heavy equipment development significantly reduced the need for manual labor, and the popularization of solutions based on renewable energy sources resulted in lowered costs and increased sustainability. The agricultural market is very dynamic, and we can expect to see even more technological development in the years to come. Because of the growing world's demands and digital evolution, the Smart Farming market is estimated to grow at a CAGR of 12.36% during the forecast period, 2020-2026.

Source: https://binarapps.com/agriculture-technology-examples-top-5-innovations/

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Caring for Baby Chicks: What to Do Once They Arrive

Starting a Flock : Caring for Chicks

Bringing home your baby chicks is an exciting milestone in raising backyard chickens. The three key essentials for raising strong baby chicks: Warm, water and feed. Start chicks strong by providing a complete chick starter feed from day 1 through week 18.

For those of us welcoming new chicks, how can we give them a solid start?

To best transition chicks into a flock, provide comfort, care and complete nutrition from day one. A chick never gets over a bad start. The actions we take before chicks arrive and the care we provide in the first few days can help set-up our chicks to be happy and healthy long-term.

Before baby chicks arrive: Set up the brooder

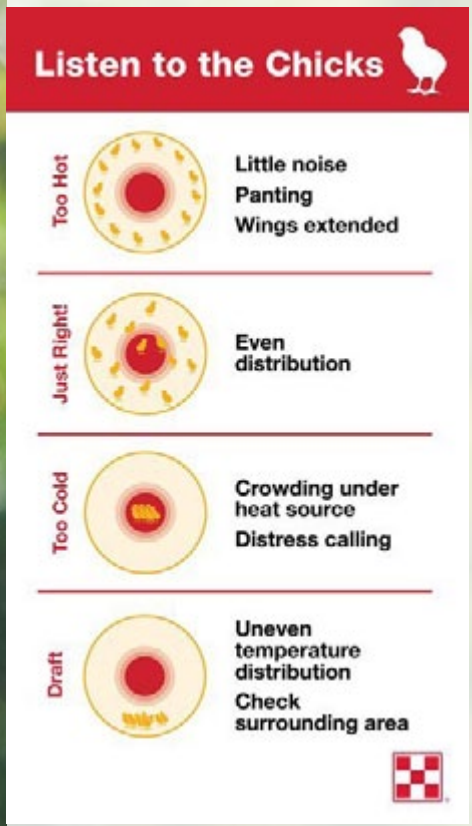
Set up your brooder about 48 hours before your chicks arrive. This allows time for bedding and equipment to dry and the temperature to set.

Equipment for day one includes:

- **Brooder**: The brooder is the first home of new chicks. Be sure it is comfortable, warm and draft-free with at least 3 to 4 square feet per chick. The area should be circular and expandable.
- **Heat lamp:** Assemble a heat lamp in the center of the brooder for bird warmth. Hang the heat lamp about 20 inches above the litter, with 2.5 to 3 feet between the lamp and the guard walls. The temperature under the heat lamp, or comfort zone, should be 95 degrees Fahrenheit and adequate room in the brooder should be available for the chicks to get out from under the heater if they get too hot. After week one, gradually reduce heat by 5 degrees Fahrenheit each week until reaching a minimum of 55 degrees.

- **Bedding:** Add an absorbant wood shavings bedding to the floor of the brooder. Place bedding 3 to 4 inches deep to keep the area dry and odor free. Remove wet bedding daily, especially around waterers. Do not use cedar shavings or other types of shavings that have a strong odor because the odor could affect the long term health of the bird.
- **Lights:** Provide 18 – 22 hours of light for the first week. Then reduce light to 16 hours through the growing period or to the amount of light they will receive when they are 20 weeks of age. The amount of light intensity required would be provided by a 40 watt bulb for each 100 square feet (10' x 10') of floor space.
- **Feeders:** Offer 4 linear inches of feeder space for each bird. Clean egg cartons filled with feed make excellent and easily accessible feeders for young chicks. Provide low-lying feeders, or trough feeders, for after the transition.
- **Waterers:** For every 25 chicks, fill two 1-quart waterers with room temperature water and place them in the brooder. To help water stay at room temperature, place the waterers in the brooder, outside the comfort zone (do not position underneath the heat lamp), 24 hours prior to the chicks' arrival.

Introduce baby chicks to water



Once chicks arrive, introduce them to the brooding area. Water, at room temperature, should be available, but wait a couple hours to introduce feed.

This gives chicks a couple hours to drink and rehydrate before they start eating, fresh, quality water is essential for healthy chicks. Dip the beaks of several chicks into the water to help them locate it. These chicks will then teach the rest of the group to drink. Monitor the group to ensure all chicks are drinking within the first couple hours.

Teach baby chicks to eat

After chicks have had a chance to rehydrate, provide the nutrients they need through a complete chick starter feed.

Provide a chick starter feed with at least 18 percent protein to help support the extra energy needed for early growth. The feed should also include amino acids for chick development; prebiotics, probiotics and yeast for immune health; and vitamins and minerals to support bone health.

To provide all the nutrients chicks need for a strong start, choose a starter-grower feed from the Flock Strong® Feeding Program. Complete starter feed options include: Purina® Start & Grow®, Purina® Start & Grow® Medicated, Purina® Organic starter-grower and Purina® Flock Raiser.

First, teach the chicks to eat by placing feed on clean egg flats, shallow pans or simple squares of paper. On day 2, add proper feeders to the pens. Once chicks have learned to eat from the feeders, remove the papers, pans or egg flats.

Adjust feed as baby chicks develop

To keep feed fresh: Empty, clean and refill waterers and feeders daily. Also, raise the height of feeders and waterers so they are level with the birds' backs as chicks grow.

As chicks mature, their nutritional needs change. At age 18 weeks, adjust the feed provided to meet the birds' evolving nutrition needs.

Transition layer chicks onto a higher-calcium complete feed, like Purina® Layena® Crumbles or Pellets, when they begin laying eggs at age 18 to 20 weeks. For meat birds and mixed flocks, choose a complete feed with 20 percent protein, like Purina® Flock Raiser® Crumbles and feed this diet from day one through adulthood.

Thinking about getting your first chicks? Visit our Baby Chick Resource Center for everything you need to start chicks strong.

Source: https://www.purinamills.com/chicken-feed/education/detail/caring-for-baby-chicks-what-to-do-once-they-arrive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How beneficial is goat's milk?

Answer: extremely beneficial, which is why approximately 65 percent of the world's population drinks goat's milk. Goats milk is a superior form of nutrition -- an excellent source of carbohydrates (energy), protein, fats and many vitamins and minerals essential for wellness.

Protein. Goat milk is rich in protein. It contains more protein when compared to other animal milk. Furthermore, the specific protein peptides in goat milk are linked to better digestibility and anti-inflammatory activity. The unique peptide profile of goat's milk is the closest milk to human milk. The extra protein in goats milk is especially important for people who live in more strenuous environments, those with less access to animal foods and those with increased protein needs, such as those who are HIV+/AIDs.

Fat. Like most milk, goats milk contains a fair amount of fat. However, the fat in goat milk is much more suitable for the human gut. Goat milk contains a unique fatty acid profile—30-35% short- and medium-chain fatty acids -- are associated with several health benefits such as exhibiting anti-inflammatory properties, immune stimulation, growth promotion and disease prevention.

Carbohydrate. Although the carbohydrate in goats milk is lactose, it has a lower lactose content compared to other animal milks which allows the milk to be more easily digested especially in those who are lactose intolerant.

Vitamins and Minerals. Goat milk is also rich in many essential vitamins A, E, B1, B2 and C and and minerals calcium, iron, magnesium, phosphorus, zinc, potassium, and selenium. Research demonstrates many of these vitamins and minerals have increased bioavailability compared to other animal milk.

Resources:

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Case IH presents autonomous and automated solutions at IGW's Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum

25 January 2024, 12:01 by *CASE IH* (Europe)

- Case IH showcases its commitment to sustainable agriculture and resource efficiency at the International Green Week's Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum in Berlin.
- The brand emphasizes automation and autonomy in agriculture, presenting systems like the Advanced Feedrate Control for combine harvesters, which won a silver medal at Agritechnica 2023.
- Case IH introduces a new baler automation system using LiDAR and ISOBUS 3 technology to optimize bale shape and density while reducing fuel consumption.
- The company discusses its autonomous tillage system with Raven Autonomy™ technology and AFS Soil Command, ensuring precise soil management.
- Case IH's Field Analyzer, featuring 4K cameras and AI, allows for real-time crop and weed distinction to minimize pesticide use.
- The autonomy kit, demonstrated with the Case IH Magnum tractor, uses cameras, radar, and AI to detect obstacles and can be applied to other series like Optum or Puma.
- Case IH presents the Farmall 75C Electric tractor at Agritechnica 2023, highlighting its quick charging capabilities and potential for a 50% reduction in operating costs compared to diesel tractors.

Engaging in dialogue with consumers and decision-makers about the core topic of resource efficiency / Actively promoting environmentally friendly food security / Technology's influence goes beyond the green sector /

Case IH is capitalising on the Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum at this year's International Green Week in Berlin as an opportunity to reinforce its role in resolving concrete challenges in agriculture. The brand is breaking new ground to assist farmers in boosting productivity and profitability, whilst generating additional value and promoting resource conservation.

"Together with other well-known agritech businesses, we are seeking in-depth dialogue with consumers and decision-makers in politics and institutions at the Farm Experience in Hall 3.2 of International Green Week," says Marc-Peter Bormann, Managing Director of CNH Deutschland GmbH.

"Agricultural engineering plays a crucial role in promoting resource-efficient, productive, and profitable farming. However, the benefits of agritech extend beyond the agricultural sector, profoundly impacting society. We intend to spotlight this impact by providing concrete examples on this occasion."

A significant increase in efficiency

Case IH is placing a particular emphasis on automation and autonomy in its presentation at

the Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum. Both developments demonstrate tremendous potential for further optimising the management of natural resources and minimising the use of fertilisers, pesticides and fuel. Beyond automatic guidance in the field, digital technologies today enable the automation of activities such as harvesting. The Advanced Feedrate Control system for Axial Flow combine harvesters presented at Agritechnica 2023 was awarded a silver medal by the German Agricultural Society's (DLG) Innovation Awards in recognition of the efficiency gains it creates. The careful use of natural resources and the collection and evaluation of agricultural data that is possible with digital technologies to further optimise field management are also playing an increasingly important role with respect to food security.

The new Case IH baler automation system is another of the modern tools the brand will be presenting at the Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum. The laser pulses from a LiDAR (light detection and ranging) sensor at the front end of the tractor roof are analysed by a processor to determine the position, shape and cross-section of a swath of crop ahead of the baler operated by the tractor. This then sends corresponding pulses to the tractor for automatic steering purposes. ISOBUS 3 (TIM – Tractor Implement Management) is also used to adjust the speed of the tractor and baler to the position and density of the swath to be baled. This eases strain and fatigue on the driver and maintains uniform bale shape and density, while making optimum use of the engine and baler power and thus minimising fuel consumption.

Case IH presents autonomous and automated solutions at IGW's Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum

Smart sensors and artificial intelligence

The Case IH autonomous tillage system based on the brand's tractor and tillage platforms and incorporating Raven Autonomy™ technology works with the latest sensor developments. AFS Soil Command – which will also be discussed at the Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum – controls the implement and ensures the correct tillage for every centimetre of soil. The same applies to the Field Analyzer, a smart sensor that CNH Industrial added to its portfolio of precision technologies in 2023 when it acquired the tech firm Augmenta Agriculture Technologies. Using 4K cameras and AI image processing, this sensor enables real-time distinction between crops and weeds, so pesticide use can be limited to the relevant areas and therefore minimised.

The autonomy kit, which was presented for the first time in Germany in autumn 2023 using the autonomous Case IH Magnum tractor as an example, goes one step further. The technology can also be used on other Case IH series, such as Optum or Puma. During operation, a combination of cameras and radar sensors continuously monitors the area around the tractor for obstacles and external movements. With the help of artificial intelligence, Raven's Perception Controller processes the continuous stream of images, interprets them and identifies potential obstacles. If one is detected, the tractor stops and the operator / administrator receives a warning on their networked smart device, allowing them to assess the situation and decide on how best to proceed. Customer studies suggest that farmers – in light of the noticeable shortage of skilled workers in the agricultural sector – see a system like this being used in parallel with conventional

Case IH presents autonomous and automated solutions at IGW's Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum

work in the fields. A second autonomous tractor would work on the same field as the tractor with the farmer, thus doubling workrate/output.

Digital and connected – and now electric too with the Farmall 75C

In addition to optimising work processes and operating parameters of individual machines, Case IH focuses on fleet solutions and coordinating multiple agricultural machines. These include telemetry solutions for remote monitoring and maintenance, automated systems for collecting and analysing agricultural data to enable informed decision-making, and the brand's integrated agricultural software for efficient management of farm data.

With the unveiling of the Farmall 75C Electric at Agritechnica 2023, Case IH demonstrated its commitment to sustainable agriculture and alternative drive systems. With its diesel-like performance, the battery of the Farmall Electric can be charged from 10% to 80% in less than an hour using the DC charging function. Thanks to electrification in combination with low wear and low maintenance costs, the model enables an up to 50% reduction in operating costs compared to diesel tractors. Digital off-board functions and additional automation options ensure highly efficient use of the vehicle, which is suitable for completing tasks in agriculture, municipal operations, industry, greenhouses and light forestry work, to name but a few examples.

Case IH presents autonomous and automated solutions at IGW's Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum

Dialogue within the sector too

The Agricultural Engineering Innovation Forum aims to enhance networking among agritech manufacturers, alongside fostering in-depth dialogues with consumers, political representatives, and institutional decision-makers. Sixteen businesses from the agricultural machinery and agricultural software sectors will collectively engage in the event to converse about future- oriented topics like autonomy, field robotics, digital hoeing, and crop protection technology.

Source: https://lectura.press/en/article/case-ih-presents-autonomous-and-automated-solutions-at-igw-s-agricultural-engineering-innovation-forum/62788


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Scientists work to develop feed additives for healthy cattle, environment

Chris Creamer, agricultural and animal associate, feeds cattle at Clemson University's Simpson Beef Cattle Farm near Pendleton, South Carolina.CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

University collaboration aims to reduce the amount of methane emissions produced by grass-fed beef cattle.

Methane is a large contributor to climate change and land-grant university researchers are working to develop new feed additives for cattle to help reduce this greenhouse gas.

Clemson University scientists Matias Aguerre and Liliane Silva are collaborating with scientists from other land-grant universities – the University of Florida and Auburn University – to develop livestock feed additives to reduce the amount of methane emissions produced by grass-fed beef cattle.

Methane (CH_4), more specifically enteric methane, is produced when ruminant animals including goats, sheep and cattle digest and ferment forages. It is a greenhouse gas that affects the environment when expelled into the atmosphere, such as when cows belch.

"In recent decades, awareness has been raised about tackling enteric GHG emissions," said Aguerre, an assistant professor of animal and veterinary sciences. "Slow progress has been made in relation to enteric methane abatement in the United States."

The new additives will be developed using novel products and approaches to optimize the rumen (a compartment in a cow's stomach) microbiome (microorganisms) activity.

Once developed, these additives will be added to livestock feed.

"This project involves a transdisciplinary team of biochemists, microbiologists, animal scientists, forage agronomists and Extension specialists who will work to develop these new additives," Aguerre said. "Our overall objective is to develop the next generation of safe, efficacious and affordable feed additives to mitigate enteric methane emissions in ruminants."

Clemson research will take place at the Simpson Beef Cattle Farm, a facility of the Piedmont Research and Education Center near Pendleton, South Carolina. Studies will be conducted using cows, steers and heifers. Scientists will assess the impact of different doses of each additive on CH_4 emissions, changes in the rumen microbiome and nutrient digestibility.

A multi-state training for Extension professionals to learn about greenhouse gas emission reduction for environmental stewardship and efficient animal production is planned. Extension agents also will learn about emerging technologies that can be incorporated into commercial production systems.

"This training will address different research tools for assessing technologies and show agents how they can work with research faculty to support on-farm research and information dissemination," said Silva, an assistant professor and Cooperative Extension Service livestock and forages specialist. "Doing this will allow us to fill the knowledge gap among Extension professionals and allow

for increased information dissemination of new technologies to producers."

Research sites will be used to demonstrate management practices and deliver content related to beef cattle nutrition and research findings from this study.

"Information will be shared with educators and producers to promote the adoption of management practices and increased sustainability of operations," Silva said.

The study, led by the University of Florida, is funded by a $5 million grant from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture as part of the U.S. government's response to tackling sources of climate change. For its part, Clemson is expected to receive $1.3 million.

Source: https://www.beefmagazine.com/livestock-management/scientists-work-to-develop-feed-additives-for-healthy-cattle-environment

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SPECIALIZED FATTY ACIDS
Help enhance epithelial renewal and regulate microbial populations.

NUCLEOTIDES
Promote longer and stronger gastro-intestinal villi.

PREBIOTICS
May reduce the risk or severity of scours, caused by disruption of the normal intestinal environment.

VITAMINS AND MINERALS
For general health and immunity. High zinc composition to help delay diarrhea and expedite diarrhea recovery.

EGG PROTEIN
Helps prevent infection and spasms in the gut epithelial cells.

ANTROVET

Ashkan
better for life

FOR SALE

2 Comet MP30 pumps

Only used once to see how they work

Price **R10 000** for both

For more information contact Herman:

083 409 4073 (no WhatsApp)

Email: h79jacobs@gmail.com

7+ Interesting facts about agriculture

Agriculture or farming is the practice of cultivating plants and livestock, typically for the purpose of human consumption. Agriculture was the key advancement that helped to lead to the rise of modern human civilizations and allowed people to move from migratory hunter/gather societies to more sedentary existences.

Agriculture and managed farm cultivation has been in practice for thousands of years. Even if we don't work in agriculture it impacts our daily lives. Here are some fun and interesting facts about agriculture!

Keep reading to learn some amazing and interesting facts about farmers and farming.

Half the habitable land on earth is used for farming

Today almost half of world's habitable land used for farming, with more than 3/4 of this is used for livestock production. If we looked at all the land used for grazing or to grow crops for animal fodder - land use for livestock accounts for about 77% of total global farming land use. However, while the production of livestock occupies the majority of world farm land it only generates about 20% of the calories and about 40% of the protein for the global food supply.

About 1/4 of the worlds population work in agriculture.

Food is essential to our livelihoods. On average over the last few decades about 40% of the world's population was employed in some agricultural related industry. However, according to data from the World Bank, the percentage of people working in food production has declined steadily over the past 2 decades. This is primarily driven by the development of infrastructure, technology and improvements in farm yields, which lead to the need for fewer people to labor as farm workers. Globally, about 1 billion people work in agricultural, about 27% of the population. This is down from 44% in 1991.

According the USDA, in 2020 there were about 19 million full and part time jobs in the food and agriculture sector, which represents about 10% of the US labor market.

The world raises and eats a lot of cows

According to the USDA, in 2021, the number of cattle worldwide was just over 1 billion head, up 13.2 million head from the prior year. Meaning that cattle represents about 60% of the total livestock production world-wide with the US being the largest beef producer at over 12.6 million metric tons of beef per year.

While cattle are the largest percentage of livestock raised, not surprisingly cows are also are the largest livestock producer of greenhouse gas emissions, representing 62% of emissions produced by livestock.

It takes about 1.5 to 2 acres to feed a cow/calf pair for 12 months with cows consuming about 2% percent of their body weight or 24 pounds per day. Today, about 80% of the world's habitable land is used for the grazing of livestock (including cattle) and production of animal feed.

In terms of production, a 1,200 pound steer resuts in about 490 pounds of beef. And a dairy cow can produce between 6-7 gallons of milk per day (or about 2,500 gallons per year).

Learn about different breeds of cows.

2.9 million organic farmers world wide

Organic certification is currently the "gold standard" in food production when it comes to assuring consumers that the farm products they are purchasing were grown and processed using methods healthy for humans and the environment.

The organic foods market in the U.S. was worth $55.1 billion in 2019. Consumers are looking for healthy foods and while there are many other "food labels" in the retail marketplace, "organic" is by far the most familiar one. Learn more about the steps to organic certification.

Some plants need cold weather to flower.

Cold stratification on seeds and plants signals the plant to be dormant and then once it warms up again the plant is ready to reproduce.

Crayons are grown - from soybeans

The soybean oil from one bushel of soybeans will make 2,112 crayons. One acre of soybeans can produce 82,368 crayons! Wow that's a lot of crayons!

30% of farmers are women.

Over a third of the 3.3 million farm operators world-wide are women. Women farm operators have increased 20% from 2002, and more than 75% of women farm operators are owners of their land. Globally, 70% of all farmers are women. Check out these amazing women farmer innovators.

Fungus helps trees grow

Fungi are amazing! They are an integrate partner in a health ecosystem and work to protect roots and help plants find water and nutrients. These white threads of mycelium that you find in a handful of healthy soil are part of fungus. These threads act as a sort of web to distribute and share food and water and are essential to the health of trees. Amazingly plants have evolved to have symbiotic relationships with fungi. The fungi help plants and in return, the plant roots give the fungi carbon, energy through carbohydrates and other nutrients.

Over 30% of all food grown is never eaten

Did you know 1 in 8 People in the US are food insecure. Yet more than 30% of food grown is wasted and never consumed. And of the food the reaches American homes, about 25% of it is thrown away. Check out these tips to reduce food waste and compost.

Source: https://www.farmbrite.com/post/7-interesting-facts-about-agriculture

7 FACTS ABOUT AGRICULTURE
YOU NEVER KNEW

27% OF THE WORLDS POPULATION WORK IN AGRICULTURE

DAIRY COWS PRODUCE 6-7 GALLONS OF MILK A DAY.

2,500 GALLONS PER YEAR

18,750 GALLONS IN THEIR LIFETIME

THERE ARE 2.9 MILLION ORGANIC PRODUCERS WOLRD WIDE

AND GROWING

SOME PLANTS NEED COLD WEATHER TO

FLOWER

APPLE TREES NEED ABOUT 900-1000 HOURS OF COLD BELOW 45° F TO FRUIT

CRAYONS ARE GROWN

THEY ARE MADE WITH

SOYBEANS

Farmbrite.com

OF THE 3.3 MILLION FARM OPERATORS

30% ARE WOMEN

FUNGUS HELPS TREES GROW

14 - 15 MAART 2024

GRIEKWASTAD SKOU

PERSIE SKOU
BOERBOK STREEKSKAMPIOENSKAP
SAVANNA STREEKSKAMPIOENSKAP
INTERRAS-BEESSKOU
SLAGLAM KOMPETISIE

Anja Meintjes - 082 374 8290
griekwastadskou@gmail.com

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since 2017

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- Our **three** e-magazines and videos are sent directly to farmers cellphones.

OUR EXTENSIVE REACH TO THE RIGHT MARKET

71,000+

Social Media followers

- BH Followers 36k
- FH Followers 8.7k
- BHV Followers 8k
- BHG Followers 14k
- FH Instagram 2k
- BH Instagram 2,7k

15,000+

Whatsapp database

34,000+

Email database

Contact us:

(0) 73 895 6392 | (0) 71 704 6282

info@boerhier.co.za

www.boerhier.co.za

Steyn Groep

Lewendehawe Dienste

BRANDMERK REGISTRASIES

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BRANDYSTERS | **BRANDYSTER OONDE** | **NEKKLAMPE EN KRALE**

stngroep@gmail.com 0724038305


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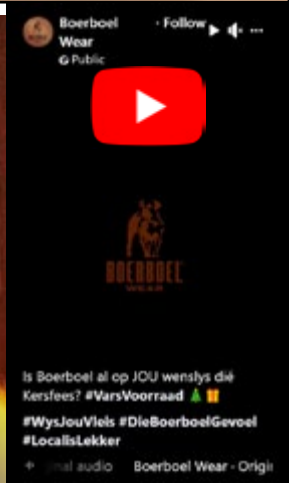
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#WysJouVleis #DieBoerboelGevoel
#LocalIsLekker
Boerboel Wear - Origi

Auction Results

ITEM STATS RESULTS TRANSVELD CLUB AUCTION 02/02/2024

TRANSVELD
MEATMASTER KLUB

ITEM NAME	TOTAL	QTY	MAX_AMT	AVG_AMT
MEATMASTER EWE PREGNANT	R 32,800.00	5	9,000.00	6,560.00
MEATMASTER EWE	R 165,300.00	31	13,000.00	5,332.26
MEATMASTER RAM	R 99,000.00	7	18,000.00	14,142.86
MEATMASTER EWE & LAMB	R 49,000.00	8	7,000.00	6,125.00
MEATMASTER EWE RECORDED PREGNANT	R 87,000.00	16	8,000.00	5,437.50
MEATMASTER EWE RECORDED	R 145,750.00	26	20,000.00	5,605.77
MEATMASTER RAM RECORDED	R 105,500.00	6	26,000.00	17,583.33
MEATMASTER EWE RECORDED WITH LAMB	R 28,500.00	4	10,000.00	7,125.00
SEMEN	R 4,000.00	10	400.00	400.00
	R 716,850.00	113		
MEATMASTER EWE AVG (90) MEATMASTER RAMS AVG (13)	R 5,648.33 R 15,730.77			
Online Total	R 244,750.00 34%			
Floor Total	R 472,100.00 66%			

CdP AUCTIONEERING SERVICES

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'n Boer is gekies deur God

&

FARMhere
Farmers are handpicked by God

SOME GOOD NEWS:
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Free Digital Magazine since 2017

Reaches over 120 000 viewers monthly

BOERhier / FARMhere has **3 new LinkedIn** social media pages and we have proceeded to share all advertising on these platforms at no extra cost.

This brings our advertising platforms to 22 now:

- 2 x websites,
- 2 x business FB pages,
- 2 x FB Groups,
- 3 x LinkedIn pages,
- 2 x Instagram pages,
- 1 x tiktok page,
- 1 x YouTube channel,
- 3 x magazines and
- 6 x FB management profiles.

We aim to constantly provide our clients quality and effective advertising.

BOERhier / FARMhere gives God all the glory and honour for our continued success.

Contact us:

(0) 73 895 6392 | (0) 71 704 6282

info@boerhier.co.za

www.boerhier.co.za

NASIONALE SAVANNA & VAN ROOY VEILING

TOP WHITE Genetics

Van Rooy
100 OOIE
20 RAMME

Savanna
66 OOIE
10 RAMME

21 MAART 2024

11:00
LITTLE FARM KIMBERLEY

SWIFT VEE
bie aanlyn
www.swiftvee.com

Vir meer inligting besoek André Kock en Seun Facebook Blad.

SCHALK ERLANK : 082 558 6891
TAT SCHOLTZ : 082 493 6306
HERMAN SCHOLTZ : 082 822 6267
HENNIE GOOSEN (AFSLAER): 079 490 4693

ANDRÉ KOCK & SEUN/SON BK
Lewendehawe Afslaers & Eiendomsagente
Livestock Auctioneers & Estate Agents

053 927 1981

VERKOOP VOORWAARDES: Rekeninge moet vereffen word direk na afloop van veiling dmv kontant of elektroniese fondsoordrag. Sodra totale bedrag in ons rekening reflekteer kan items/diere gelaai word. Kontanthanteringsfooie sal gehef word op alle kontanttransaksies. FICA dokumentasie (ID / paspoort en bewys van verblyf) moet teenwoordig wees om transaksie af te handel.

VALLEY VENTURE STUD & FRIENDS
LIVE AUCTION 2024

Now Available On The Wildswinkel App!
Please note: lot information, numbers, and sequence, are subject to change.

11:00, Saturday, 17 February 2024
Morgenzon Estate, Pretoria

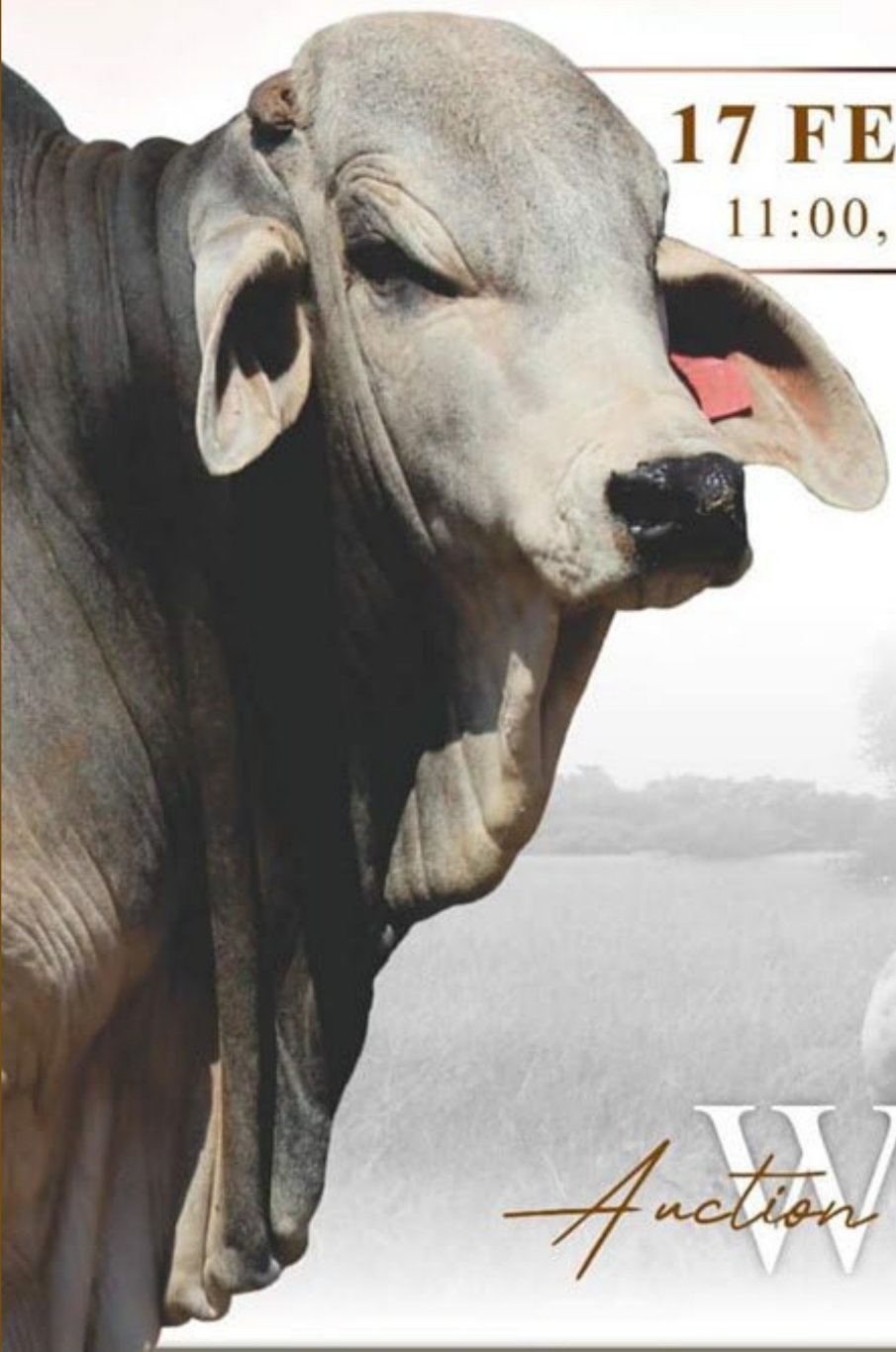
For more information, contact:
JP Smith | 082 417 8826
Tina de Jager | 082 774 4777
Garth Saville | 082 883 2503

Valley Venture STUD and friends

WELTEVREDEN RIVER RANCH

The toughest Brahmans

Totale UITVERKOPING



17 FEBRUARIE 2024

11:00, Warmbad Veilingskrale

5 Teelbulle

110 Jong Bulle

122 Koeie met Kalwers

52 Dragtige Koeie

80 Verse

(Sommige dragtig gesertifiseerd)

15 Kommersiële diere

WRR

Auction of Champs!

Christiaan Botha	083 459 1955	Paul van Vuuren	083 658 7318
Mieke Botha	079 229 4385	Andrew Smith (Afslaer)	082 411 6621
Paul van Vuuren	083 230 3595	Schalk Erlank	082 558 6891

ANDRÉ KOCK & SEUN/SON BK™
Lewendehawe Afslaers & Eiendomsagente
Livestock Auctioneers & Estate Agents
LIMPOPO

ONDER BESKERMING UNDER THE AUSPICES


SMITHFIELD VEILING
AM SWANEPOEL & SEUNS BOERDERY
Mooihoek Merino's
Mooihoek Merino's
6de Produksieveiling
20 FEBRUARIE 2024
12H00 | SMITHFIELD, MOOIHOEK
GPS: S 30°9'8.6" E 26°17'17.3"
PRODUKSIE GEDREWE
AANBOD:
• 20 Ramme
OOIE:
• 380 Dragtige Ooie 4T -VB (3mnde wol)
• 480 Jong Oop 2T Ooie (3mnde wol)
• 250 Ou Ooie (3 mnde wol)
• ±1200 Hamel Lammers (5 mnde wol)
NAVRAE:
THERON SWANEPOEL 072 117 7766
THIAN SWANEPOEL 072 266 8550
JAN JOUBERT (BKB) 082 573 4980
JP MARAIS (AFSLAER) 060 551 6537
MERINO
BESOEK ONS BY WWW.BKB.CO.ZA
AFSLAERS:
E-POS: BEMARK.CRADOCK@BKB.CO.ZA
BKB
LEWENDEHAWE & AFSLAERSDIENSTE

BKB UPINGTON

JONGOOI AANTEEL- & SLAGVEE VEILING

DINSDAG, 20 FEBRUARIE 2024

| 11VM | KLK VOERKRALE

GPS KOÖRDINATE: -28.410351, 21.333010

BESPREEK ASB U GETALLE BY:

- Chris Hendriks (Afslaer) 083 449 0852
- Stiaan von Wielligh (BKB) 082 844 6604
- Herman Smit 082 373 6822
- Jan Engels 082 772 6767

TERME: Elektroniese betalings op dag van veiling. 2% Hanteringsfooi op alle kaartransaksies. Elektroniese oorplasingsfasiliteite beskikbaar. FICA-dokumente word vereis by registrasieproses. Alle goedere word met 'n reserweprys verkoop en 'n reg bestaan om te bied deur of namens die eienaar of afslaer, tensy anders aangedui. Die regulasies van die Wet op Verbruikersbeskerming 2008 is beskikbaar by http://www.gov.za/documents/consumer-protection-act-regulations. Beeldig die veilingsreëls by www.bkb.co.za.

NAVRAE: STIAAN VON WIELLIGH (BKB) 082 844 6604

AFSLAER: CHRIS HENDRIKS 083 449 0852

BESOEK ONS BY WWW.BKB.CO.ZA

BKB

The Trusted Home of Agriculture
Die Betroubare Tuiste van Landbou

DOHNE MERINO
NASIONALE VEILING

DAGBOEK
DIE DATUM!

21 FEB 2024 • BOTANIESE TUINE, GRAAFF-REINET

AANBOD: RAMME, JONG OOIE & SEMEN

OVK

Vaughan Collier **082 663 3990**
Philippie Marais **082 887 0407**

Stormberg Merinos

- Stud no 2150

WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2024 at 12H00
on farm Buffels Fontein, Molteno

GPS: -31,367716, 26,701410,

ON OFFER:

- **40** Merino Rams
- **1000** Merino Ewes
  - **400** Pregnant Merino Ewes 4T-FM (4 Months wool)
  - **600** Merino Open Ewes 2T-FM (3 Months wool)

TERMS: Electronic payments only on day of auction. 2% Handling Fee will be charged on all card transactions. Electronic transfer facilities available. FICA documentation is required during registration process. All goods are sold at a reserve price and there is a right to bid by or on behalf of the owner or auctioneer, unless otherwise indicated. The regulation of the Consumer Protection Act, 2008 is available at http://www.gov.za/documents/consumer-protection-act-regulations. View the auction rules at **www.bkb.co.za.**

AUCTIONEERS:
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TEL: 048 881 3090 FAX: 048 881 2605
E-MAIL: BEMARK.CRADOCK@BKB.CO.ZA
REG. NR. 1998/012435/06

ENQUIRIES: Robbie Stretton 082 578 2334
Gary Trethewey (BKB) 082 371 4280
Calvyn De Klerk (BKB) 082 498 5745
Grant Stretton 082 858 0580
AUCTIONEER: JP Marais (BKB) 060 551 6537

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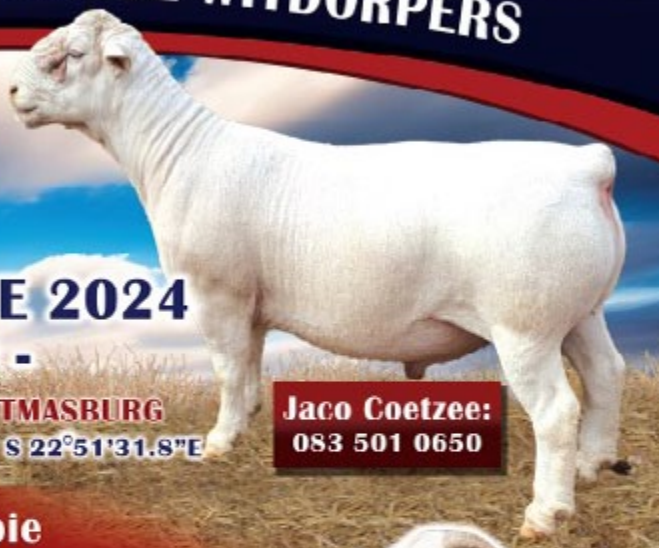
BKB LIVESTOCK & AUCTIONEERING

Lucasdam Dorpers

C.J. Coetzee Sedert 1983 Wit Dorper Stoet

GESAMENTLIKE VEILING VAN:

LUCASDAM DORPERS & CJ COETZEE WITDORPERS



DORPER

22 FEBRUARIE 2024

- 11:00 -

PLAAS LUCASDAM, POSTMASBURG

GPS koördinate: 25°14'52.8" S 22°51'31.8"E

John Daniel:
082 552 2933

Jaco Coetzee:
083 501 0650

- 45 Dorper ramme
- 15 Witdorper ramme
- 7 Savanna Ramme
- 20 Dorper ooie
- 20 Witdorper ooie
- 30 Savanna Ooie
- 30 Verse

CASVERKOPER

Rudie Grasmus
SAVANNA STOET
073 123 9095

LE WENDEHAWE KOÖP BPK
NOORDKAAP
LIVESTOCK CO-OP LTD

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NAVRAE:
Bemarker:
Roux van der Merwe: 082 781 3735
Afslaer:
Chris Hendriks 083 449 0852
Stoet- en spesiale veilings:
Ramona de Bruin : 083 319 8626

SANTA SELECT SALE - 12 SEPTEMBER

Contact: Willie de Jager | +27 82 565 5445

Duly instructed by our valued client Anthony Mundell, the following items will be auctioned

TOTAL DISPERSAL SALE

ARGYLE FARMING

Tuesday 27 February 2024 at 11h00

Argyle Farm, Quanti - GPS: 32°21'38.0"S 27°27'07.6"E

Vehicles, Implements, Equipment & More

VEHICLES: 2005 Toyota Hilux DE + Stockman rails (241,000 Km) - 2013 John Deere 5503 4x4 Tractor (2193 Hours) (Excellent condition) - 1987 Tractor Trailer (4.1m x 2m) - 2002 Kei Bodies Sheep Trailer (2.5m x 1.3m) - 2001 Sheep Trailer with towing eye (2.5mx1.4m)

Vehicles and trailers licenced. Roadworthy is the responsibility of the Purchaser

IMPLEMENTS: MOFL18 Offset Disc - 5t Ripper Plough - 3 furrow Moldboard Plough - 3 furrow Disc Plough - 9 Tine MF Cultivator (2m) - 7 Tine Spring tiller (1.8m) - Dam Scoop single swivel wheel (1.5m) - Small grader blade - Small Cambridge roller (2.5m)

EQUIPMENT: Hydraulic Wool press - Staalmeester 6116 IRS Hammermil- Falcon F40/150 Slasher - PTO Shaft (Feed mixer-1.2t) - Rolo 1.2t Feed mixer (7.5KW) - BPI 600 litre 12m Boom sprayer - Calf tilting clamp

LOOSE ITEMS: 1000lt Horizontal Water Tank - Wool bale trolley - 3 Sheep water troughs - Cattle water trough - 16 Creep feed gates - Scaffolding - 8kg Grease gun - Block and Tackle (1 ton) - Windmill pipe holding clamp + Strap chain wrench - Stafix 36 Black Energizer - Stafix X3 Unigizer - Bobbins, strain insulators, earth spikes - 29 Tyre feed troughs - 6 Wooden wool bins - 13 Metal/net bin gates & 8 fronts - Various wool sorting tables

BKB Livestock & Auctioneering

ENQUIRIES: Ant Mundell 082 321 2311 | Gary Cawthorn (BKB) 082 321 0664

AUCTIONEER: JP Marais (BKB) 060 551 6537

For more details and conditions of sale please visit our website www.bkb.co.za.

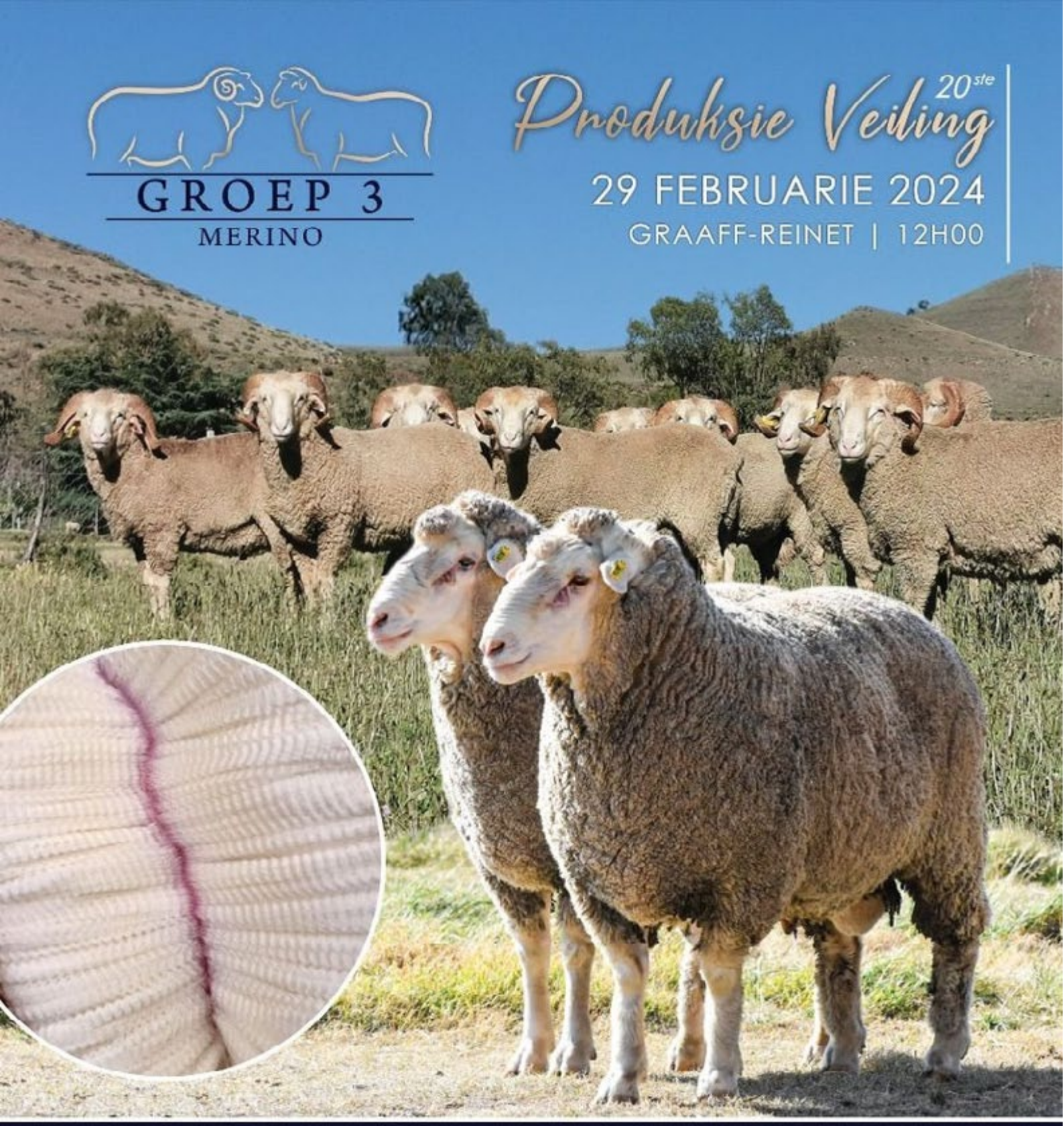
AUCTIONEERS: PO Box 304, Cradock, 5880 | Tel: 048 881 3090 Fax: 048 881 2605 | Email: bemark.cradock@bkb.co.za | Reg.Nr. 1998/012435/06

GROEP 3
MERINO

Produksie Veiling 20ste

29 FEBRUARIE 2024

GRAAFF-REINET | 12H00



AANBOD: 45 HORING & POENSKOP MERINO RAMME

BOTANIESE SPORTGRONDE | GPS: S 32° 14'55.4" E 24° 31'32.3"

MERINO

Theo Potgieter:
072 356 8940

Kleintjie Pienaar:
082 823 0648

Jaco Potgieter:
082 2104160

BKB
LEWENDEHAWE & AFSLAERSDIENSTE

Afslaer JP Marais (BKB):
060 551 6537
Christiaan Marincowitz (BKB):
082 826 0668

Groep3 Merino's

16TH OVERVAAL DEXTER CLUB AUCTION

Overvaal Dexters

02 MAR 2024

11:00 SATURDAY

WILLEM PRINSLOO LANDBOU MUSEUM
R104 OLD PRETORIA ROAD, DISTRICT RAYTON

Rocco Van Rooyen 082 799 2776 | Moolman Mentz 083 229 2500 | Billy Lyons 082 785 5498
Tian Botha 082 784 8804 | Nean van Zyl 076 324 2493

4 BULLS

60 FEMALE ANIMALS

40 SUPERS & WEANED CALVES

BKB

Volledige veilingsreëls is beskikbaar by: www.bkb.co.za

The Trusted Home of Agriculture
Die Betroubare Tuiste van Landbou

De Oude Kraal Dorpers

Production Auction!

High Quality adaptable Dorpers on Bid!

FIRE & WINE VENUE

PRETORIA

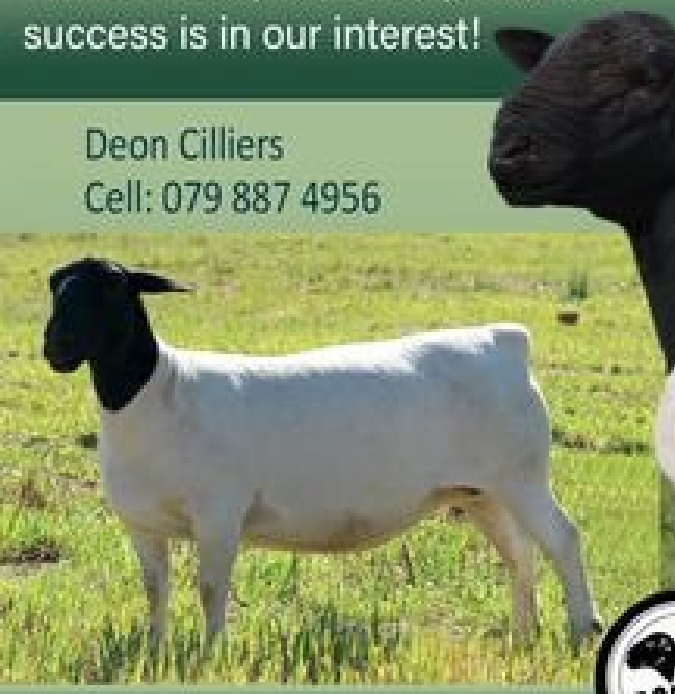
16 MARCH 2024 | 11:00

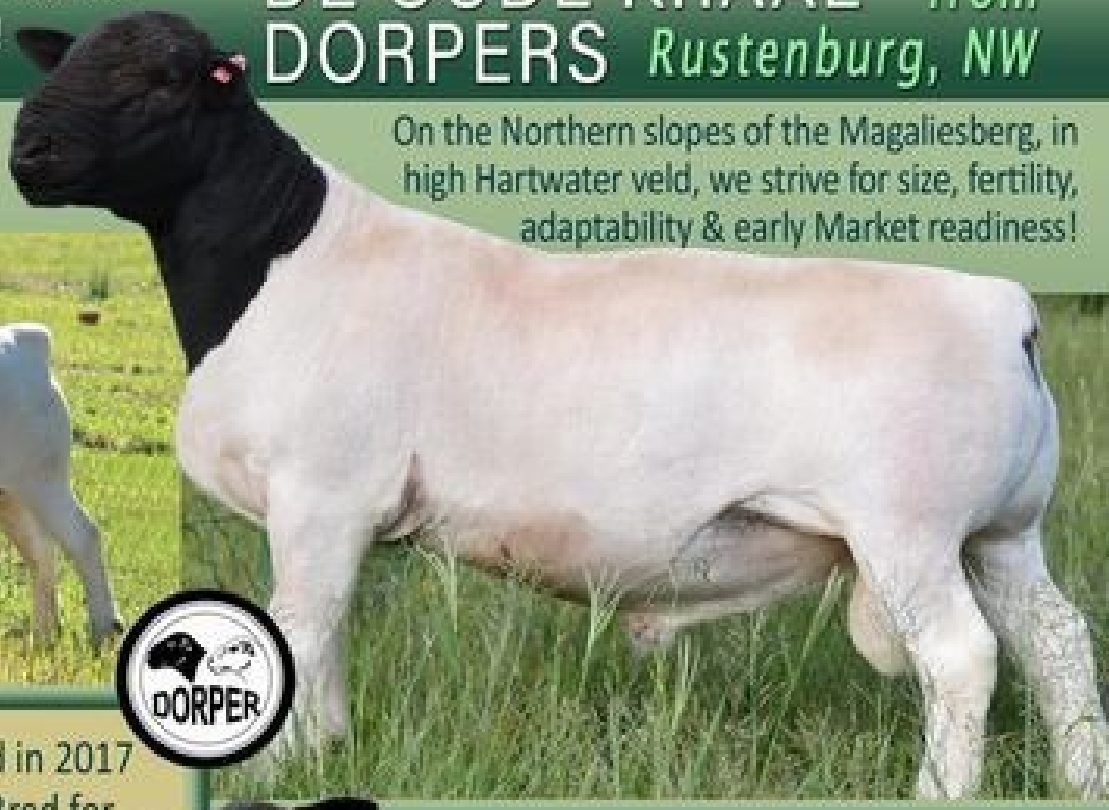
Invest in adaptable Dorpers! Your success is in our interest!

DE OUDE KRAAL DORPERS *from Rustenburg, NW*

Deon Cilliers
Cell: 079 887 4956

On the Northern slopes of the Magaliesberg, in high Hartwater veld, we strive for size, fertility, adaptability & early Market readiness!





DORPER

Jowilize Dorpers, Established in 2017 with well adapted animals. Bred for fertility, hardiness and longevity.

Elize Visser Cell: 082 428 1406

JOWILIZE DORPERS *from Potchefstroom, NW*

Vleissentraal BOSVELD

BEMARKER Peet Kruger 082 809 3836 · **AFSLAER** Craig le Roux 082 808 7747
BOSVELD TAK potgietersrus@vleissentraal.co.za • www.vleissentraal.co.za

PRETORIA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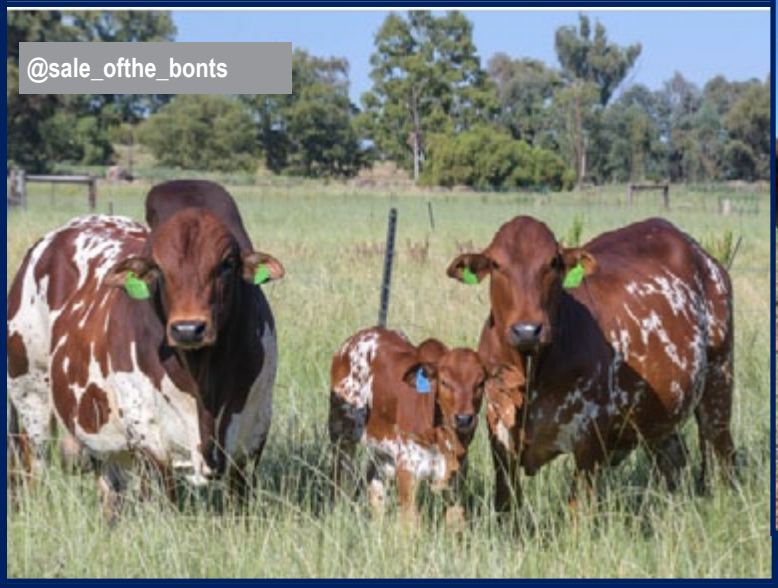
@white_sheep_farm


@g10boerdery


@sale_ofthe_bonts


@mc_borane


@kruger_bonsmaras


@vaalkamdor_borane

What's happening in Markets

Beef

A2/3 = R 54.55

B2/3 = R 49.92

C2/3 = 47.51

Weaner Calf = R 36.07

Sheep

A2/3 = R 83.14

B2/3 = R 62.36

C2/3 = R 59.63

Feeder Lamb = R 37.34

Goats

Ewes = R 37.80

Kids <30kg = R 48.09

Kids 30-40kg = R 41.03

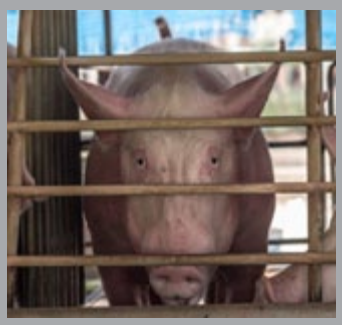
Kids > 40kg = R 38.94

Chicken

Frozen = R 35.83

Fresh = R 36.94

IQF = R 33.20



Pigs

Porkers = R 32.14

Baconers = R 31.72

Safex

Maize = R 3770 /t

Soybean = R 8201 /t

Sunflower = R 8487 /t

Wheat = R 5980 /t

Exchange rate

R / $ = R 19.00

R / £ = R 23.85

R / € = R 20.39

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RECIPE
HERBED CHICKEN-AND-RICE SALAD

Microwaveable rice and a rotisserie chicken make an easy weeknight dish.

On a busy weeknight, who has time to roast a whole chicken? A store-bought rotisserie chicken is a busy cook's best friend. Microwavable rice is another one of those oft-overlooked ingredients that we're here to praise. In this recipe for Herbed Chicken-and-Rice Salad, we're highlighting both rotisserie chicken and microwavable rice in a simple dish that's great for a mid-week supper or a summer picnic.

Ingredients

- 2 (8½-oz.) pkg. microwavable basmati rice
- ½ cup loosely packed fresh tender herbs (such as dill, parsley, and chives), plus more for garnish
- ¼ cup plus 2 Tbsp. olive oil
- ¼ cup fresh lemon juice (from 2 large lemons)
- 2 tablespoons chopped shallot (from 1 small shallot)
- ½ tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 2 teaspoons honey
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- 2 ½ cups shredded rotisserie chicken breast (from 1 chicken)
- 2 cups halved multicolored cherry tomatoes (from 1 [12-oz.] pkg.)
- 1 ¼ cups (¼-inch) diagonally sliced Persian or mini cucumbers (about 3 cucumbers)
- 1 cup sliced almonds, toasted
- 4 ounces feta cheese, crumbled (about 1 cup)
- ½ cup (¼-inch) sliced celery (from 1 large celery stalk)
- ¼ cup coarsely chopped celery leaves
- ¼ cup coarsely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley

Directions

Microwave rice according to package directions; transfer to a large bowl, and cool completely, about 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, place herbs, olive oil, lemon juice, shallot, mustard, honey, salt, and pepper in a food processor or blender; process until smooth, about 30 seconds.

Add chicken, tomatoes, cucumbers, almonds, feta, celery, chopped celery leaves, and parsley to bowl with cooled rice; drizzle with dressing, and toss to coat. Transfer to a large serving platter or bowl, and garnish with additional herbs.

https://www.southernliving.com/recipes/herbed-chicken-and-rice-salad

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O God, You have told me in your Word to "be strong and of a good courage" and to "fear not," and I need your help to do that. You have said that "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Please help me be strong and courageous today and walk in your strength. Amen.

Lizelle

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.

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