



DATE: 21 February 2011

ATTENTION: The News Editor

**AGRA STUD SERVICES LOOKS FORWARD TO ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR.**

Agra stud services started the 2011 stud auctions with the Summer Sale in Windhoek and the Aranos Dorper Top Ram auction in Aranos.

At Aranos, the sixty rams on offer were all sold at an average price of N\$8 867. The highest price for a ram was N\$24 000 for a type 5 ram of Mr. L de Scande, bought by Mr. JJ du Toit.

At the Summer Sale in Windhoek, bulls and heifers of the following breeds were on sale: Brahman, Santa Gertrudis, Bonsmara, Simbra, Simmentaler and Sussex. The highest price of N\$41 000 was paid by Mr. Chris Botha of Otjiwarongo for a Simbra bull from ZZZ Farming Enterprise CC. The six Simbra bulls at the auction also fetched the highest average price of N\$28 000.

Agra Stud services hosted a total of 25 stud auctions countrywide in 2010. On the stud auctions of 2010 Kiep Lepen reported: "Both the record for the most expensive bull as well as the average price per bull was broken once again in 2010." The Bonsmara bull, HART 07-87 from Hartebeestloop Bonsmaras of Dr Joggie Briedenhann was sold for N\$ 450 000 compared to the highest price in 2009 of N\$ 280 000 for a bull, also from Hartebeestloop Bonsmaras. The average price per bull was N\$ 29 142 in 2010 compared to N\$ 28 713 in 2009. About 160 large stock stud breeders and commercial producers marketed animals through Agra's stud services in 2010. In total 2 172 animals were sold through Agra Stud Services, which is a 19, 3% increase from the previous year.

/more

Lepen highlighted the primary factors affecting bull prices as: stability in the country; annual rainfall; grazing conditions; exchange rate; maize prices; prices of weaners and of course, the quality of animals offered.

In the light of current challenges that Namibian producers face, Lepen said: "Farmers will have to be more innovative in order to increase productivity and effectiveness and maintain economically sustainable production." He also added that the transfer of knowledge and skills to all producers and stud breeders remains a high priority. "Professional marketing; quality of animals and approach of stud breeders towards buyers and agents are crucial to the success of stud breeders", he said and added: "Agra stud services look forward to another year of accomplishments!"

**Ends.**

**Issued By:**

Albé Snyman  
Communications Officer  
Corporate Affairs Department  
Agra (Co-operative) Limited  
Tel: (061) 290 9273  
Fax: (061) 290 9250  
Email: [albes@agra.com.na](mailto:albes@agra.com.na)

[www.agra.com.na](http://www.agra.com.na)

**Contact Person:**

Birgit Hoffmann  
Senior Manager Corporate Affairs  
Agra (Co-operative) Limited  
Tel: (061) 290 9264  
Fax: (061) 290 9250  
Email: [birgith@agra.com.na](mailto:birgith@agra.com.na)

[www.agra.com.na](http://www.agra.com.na)