



Pelts 1

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ATTENTION: The News Editor

PRESS RELEASE

WHITE swakara SOLD WELL IN KOPENHAGEN

The prices for white **swakara** increased at the Copenhagen fur auction on Sunday 12 September, with the highest price having been DKK930 (Danish Krone). This was paid by Boursos Konstantinos from Greece for a lot of 107 O Selected white pelts. In Namibian Dollar it is N\$ 1 140.

The average price for **swakara** at this auction was DKK278, which is an increase of 7,8 % in the Danish Krone price compared to the April 2010 auction, but was firm in Namibian Dollar (N\$ 341) due to a strengthening of the NAD.

The average prices achieved for the different pelts were as follows:

Black pelts: DKK 253, an increase of 5,1% compared to the April 2010 auction. In Namibian dollars, the price was N\$310, a decrease of 3.4%

White pelts: DKK 514, which is an increase of 18,5%. Some of the white pelt grades achieved a 34% higher price compared to the April 2010 auction.

Grey pelts were sold again on this auction and achieved a price of DKK 282, an increase of 29% from the September 2009 auction.

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Pelts 2

A total of 63 105 pelts were on auction, which totals a number of 138 975 **karakul** pelts marketed through this auction in 2010. (75 870) at the April auction.

The offer consisted of 50 007 black, 5 625 white, 5 274 grey, 328 brown and 1871 sundry pelts.

The highest price for black pelts in Danish Krone was 470, paid by Otmar Sladky from Austria. In Namibian Dollar, this was N\$ 576, for a lot of 110 O Light Selected Extra pelts.

The highest price for grey pelts was DKK 490, paid by Kopenhagen Fur Studion from Denmark.

Italy was the biggest buyer with Greece second. Other countries who bought **swakara** were USA, England, Hong Kong, Germany, Switzerland and Turkey.

Wool:

Farming with karakul sheep is primarily done for the solid prices obtained for the karakul pelts. Karakul wool is regarded as a low profit by-product. There are about 600 karakul producers in Namibia. In Agra's financial year 2009-2010, karakul farmers sold a total of 180 209 kg wool through Agra, packed in 1 855 bales. On average, a price of N\$2,30 per kg wool is paid to the farmers. If the actual shearing and transport costs incurred by the farmer are subtracted, this is a very low margin / low profit product.

Due to internal problems at Stucken, the buyer of Agra's karakul wool in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, Agra was unfortunately forced to stop the intake of wool. Agra is deliberating with Stucken and trusts that the problem will be solved soonest in order for Agra's export of wool to South Africa to continue. Agra will keep producers updated in this regard.

Ends.

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