



DATE: 15 August 2011

ATTENTION: The News Editor

AGRA WEANER AUCTIONS EXCEL!

Agra weaner auctions 2011 certainly do not disappoint in terms of prices per animal achieved by producers, which are up to 51% higher than last year, with a highest price at this stage of N\$22/kg. Very commendable however, is the quality of the weaners that producers make available through Agra. Buyers at several auctions complimented producers on the quality of the weaners.

The value of the quality is reflected in the prices that are achieved. At Agra's five largest weaner auctions, Windhoek, Otjiwarongo, Rehoboth, Grootfontein and Gobabis a total of 4 756 tollies and 2090 heifers were sold. The average prices achieved at these auctions varied from N\$17,66/kg to N\$20,76/kg for tollies and from N\$16,17/kg to N\$19,13/kg was paid for heifers.

Another auction, where the weaner offer as well as quality and price surprised seller, agent and buyer, was the weaner auction in Karasburg. In this traditionally small stock farming area, a total number of 596 cattle were sold of which 445 were weaners. Tollies sold for an average of N\$14,29/kg to N\$19,48/kg and heifers between N\$17,94/kg and N\$18,96/kg. A lot was done by Agra to improve the auction facilities at this centre in order to also offer the best service in the selling of large stock, an input of which the farmers of this region expressed their greatest appreciation.

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The involvement of the sponsors, Alexander Forbes Group Namibia, Bank Windhoek, Corporate Guarantee, First National Bank, Feedmaster, Feedpro, Merial, MTC , Old Mutual Namibia, Shell Namibia, Standard Bank Namibia, Welwitschia Nammic Insurance Brokers, in the weaner auction competitions, makes it possible for Agra to acknowledge and reward the producers of good quality calves. Several farmers have received prizes for winning weaners, showing good growth potential for feedlot and on the veld respectively or for selling the most weaners at auctions.

Agra is positive about the remaining six weaner auctions scheduled for this season – at Aub, Manubi at Koës, Loskop at Outjo, Keetmanshoop, Helmeringhausen and Nomtsas. After these auctions have been finished, Agra looks forward to awarding the regional and national winners of the weaner competition.

Ends.

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