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THE SMALL STOCK MARKETING SCHEME: EVALUATING MARKETING AND PRICES

W Schutz, Manager Information, Meatboard of Namibia

1. Introduction

The Meat Board has, in line with Cabinet's decision, implemented a scheme with the goal of gradually and smoothly phasing in restrictions on sheep exports in order to support full utilisation of local capacity without major market disturbances with its trading partner, South Africa. Through this scheme producers have to perform locally (slaughter) before they are allowed to export live sheep.

The purpose of the scheme was to gradually phase in the local slaughtering of sheep, allowing the total industry (abattoirs, producers, transporters, agents, speculators and auctioneers) in terms of the Namibian Constitution to change their business so as to adapt to and establish new marketing channels and markets in South Africa and elsewhere.

This article aims to present an overview of the progress of the Small Stock Marketing Scheme.

2. Availability of sheep

The annual sheep numbers in the country as provided by the Directorate Veterinary Services' census have remained relatively stable over the past few years (Table 1), ranging between 2.3 million and 2.9 million.

By using average marketing figures from the past six years it is calculated that approximately 282 900 sheep will be available in the first quarter of 2008 (*This calculation does not include springback and goats*) while the available abattoir capacity is expected to be 292 800. In the event of all producers slaughtering all

(Table 1)

LIVESTOCK NUMBERS						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Sheep	2,369,809	2,764,253	2,955,454	2,619,363	2,663,795	2,660,252
Commercial	2,104,397	2,498,956	2,671,148	2,373,195	2,407,639	2,384,250
Communal SCA	182,609	173,529	192,248	193,230	193,230	204,301
Communal NCA	82,803	91,768	53,919	62,926	62,926	71,701

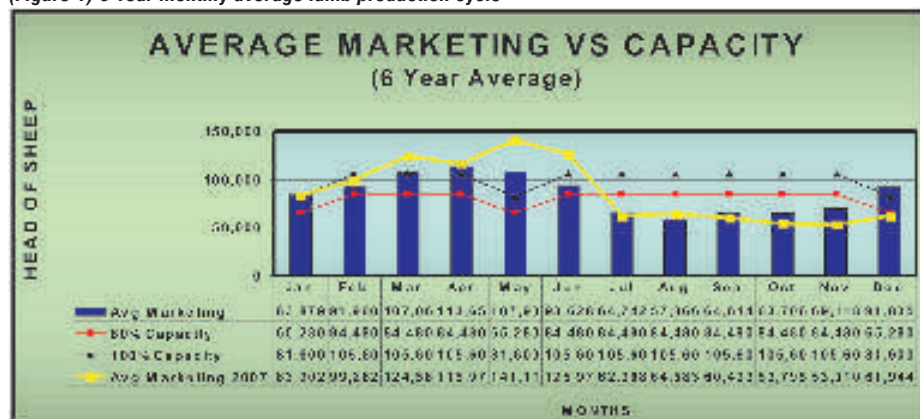
available sheep locally during this period, 97 % of the local abattoir capacity will be utilised (Figure 1).

One of the main problems that abattoirs experience is the seasonal supply. From January to June each year abattoirs are slaughtering at very high volumes, stretching resources to their maximum capacity while the second half of the year abattoirs barely utilise half of their capacity and resources, increasing per unit costs.

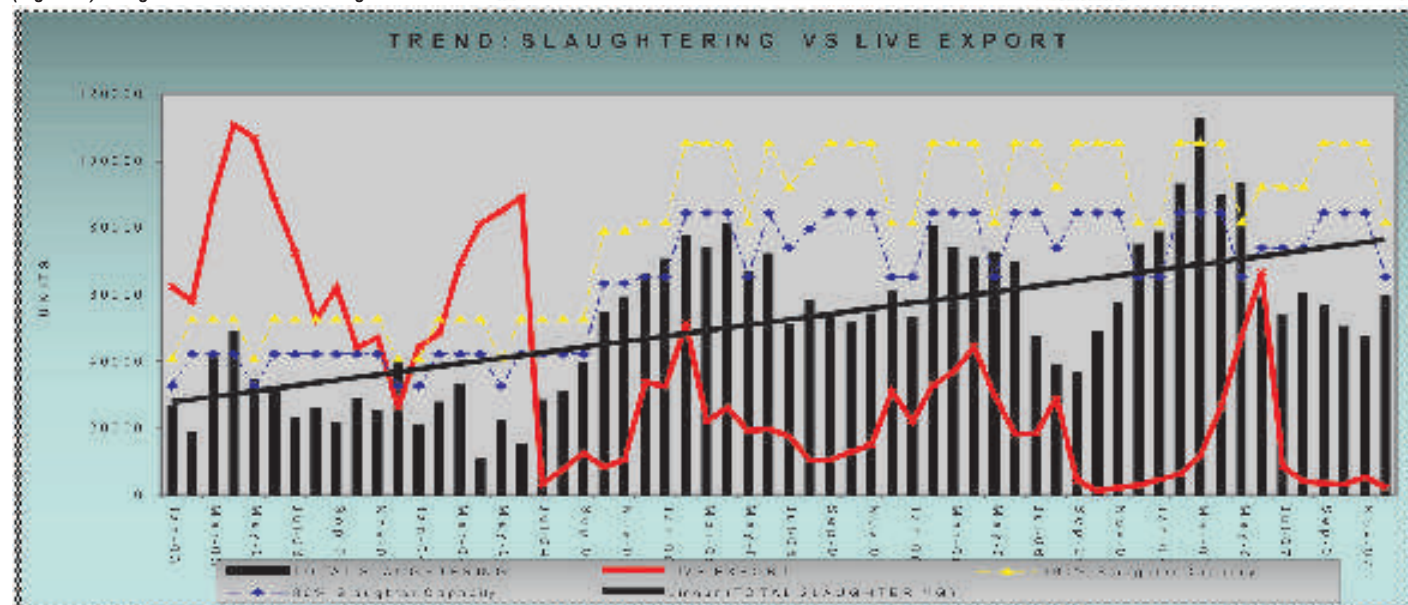
3. Utilisation of slaughter capacity

It is evident from Figure 2, that the slaughtering graph after the onset of the scheme is a mirror image of live export before the implementation of the scheme (July 2004). Slaughtering as a percentage of total marketing represent approximately 85.3 % while live exports only represent 14.7 % of total marketing (January to December 2007).

(Figure 1) 6-Year monthly average lamb production cycle



(Figure 2) Long Term Trend in Marketing



THE SMALL STOCK MARKETING SCHEME

4. Monitoring of prices

Since the onset of the scheme, the price differences with that of the RMAA price, was a bowl of contention. Several meetings were held to try and come to an amicable solution. A Namibian reference price for A-grades (RMAA - N\$ 1.50) was agreed on and reaffirmed on several industry meetings. Abattoirs indicated that they will strive to pay the reference price for all other grades.

Evaluating Figure 3 and 4 it is clear that the Namibian abattoirs are not consistently meeting the reference price for A-grades as well as the other grades.

5. Expected market forecast (see figure 5)

6. Conclusion

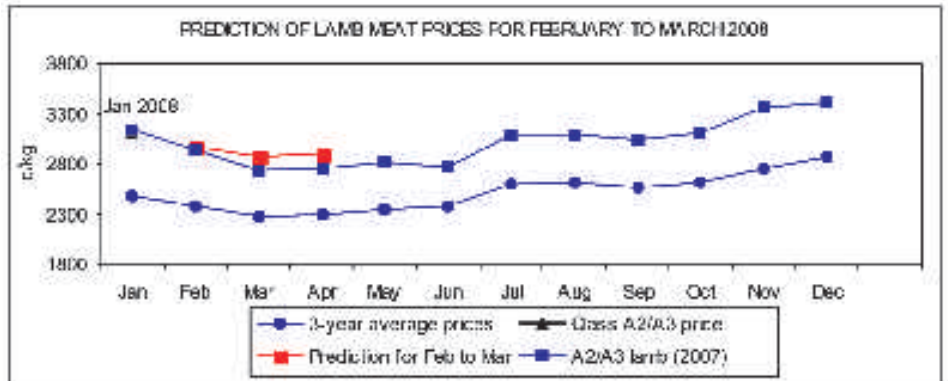
When evaluating the progress of the scheme according to the main principles of local value-addition versus a fair price to be received by producers it is clear that the

determination and monitoring of prices need special attention, especially with regard to off-grades. Throughput at abattoirs, especially in the months of low production, needs attention, while capacity shortages in case of peak production months and special circumstances like droughts need to be taken into

account while drafting a long-term solution for small stock marketing.

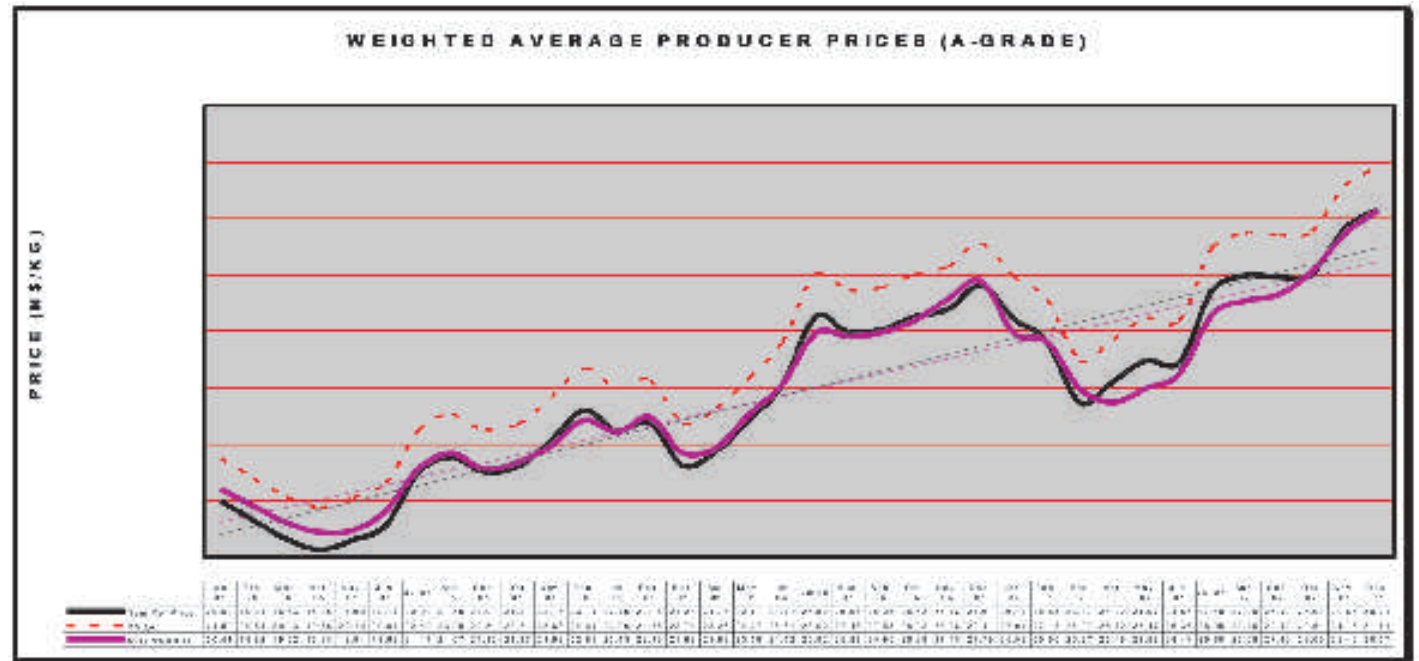
Discussion between the abattoirs and producers, on the way forward, is under way and the intention is to get a long term solution which will benefit the total industry and the Namibian economy.

(Figure 5)



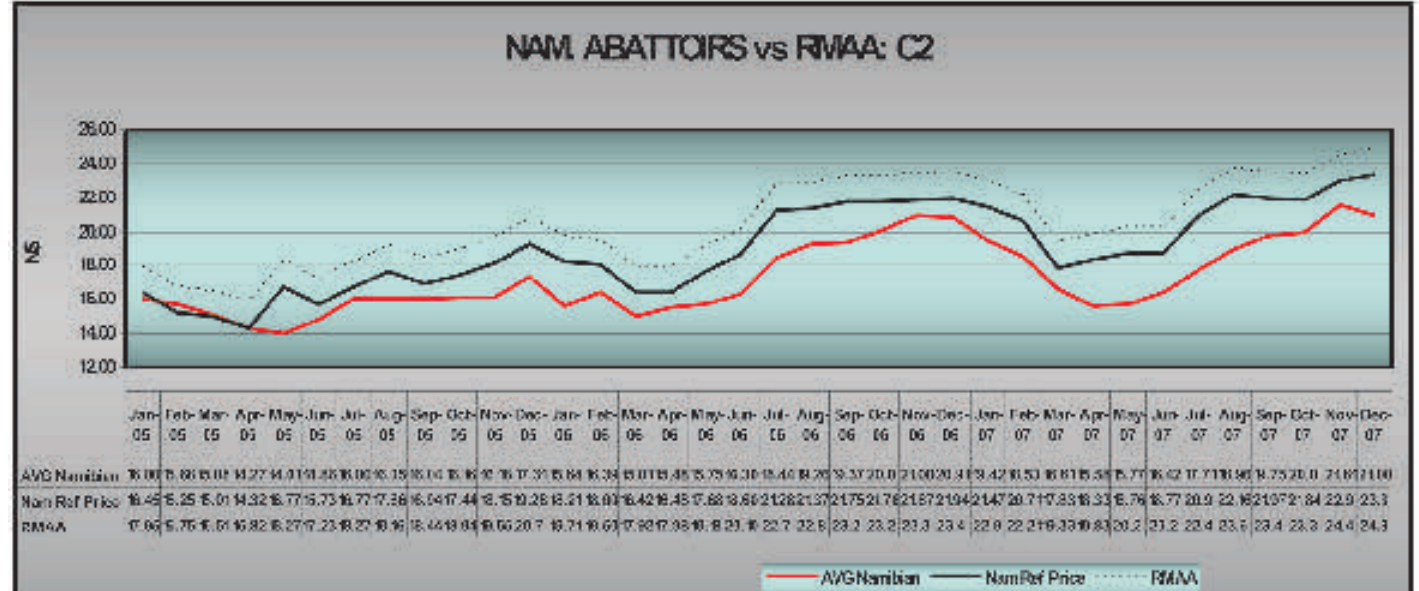
Source: AMT

(Figure 3) Reported carcass prices by Export Abattoirs (A-Grade -weighted)



* Namibian Ref Price = SARMAA price - N\$ 1,50

(Figure 4) Reported carcass prices by Export Abattoirs (C2-Grade)



STOETVEE BEHAAL REKORD PRYSE TE MIDDE VAN MOEILIKE JAAR

Kiep Lepen, Bestuurder: Agra Stoetveedienste

Die jaar 2007 sal onthou word as 'n jaar waarin die gunstige boerdery produksie omgewing wat gedurende 2006 geheers het dramaties na ongunstige toestande verander het. Die ouer generasie boere is mos die mening toegedaan dat, wanneer dit die voorspoedigste gaan is die moeilikheid om die draai. Ondanks die moeilike boerdery toestande is daar tog rede tot dankbaarheid en het die jaar verskeie hoogtepunte opgelewer waarop die stoetbedryf inderdaad trots kan wees. Vir eers word die faktore wat aanleiding gegee het tot 2007 se verswakende boerdery omstandighede in oënskou geneem.

- Laer en swakker verspreide reëval teenoor die vorige jaar
- Gevolglik swakker weidingstoestand
- Ligter gewigte van diere tydens bemarking
- Stygende brandstofpryse
- Stygende rentekoerse
- Laer vleispryse
- Aansienlike styging in produksiekostes
- Verskille tussen die EU en die Namibiese owerheid ten opsigte van sekere kwessies in die EPA-ooreenkoms wat betrekking het tot marktoegang na die EU
- Grensbeheer en die effek daarvan op netto boerdery inkomste in die kleinveebedryf
- Dreigende inperking van elektrisiteit voorsiening deur Suid-Afrika aan Namibië

Ten spyte van bogenoemde faktore wat veeboerdery die afgelope jaar negatief beïnvloed het, is die stoetbedryf daarenteen steeds besig om te groei. Die Namibiese Stoettersvereniging meld die volgende statistieke in hul jaarverslag van 2007. Sedert 2000 het die aantal Telersgenootskappe na 24 toegeneem (64% toename), die aantal telers na 447 (116% toename) en die aantal geregistreerde diere na 51 658 (95.6% toename) waarvan die grootvee 32 466 en die kleinvee 19 192 uitmaak.

Dit is ook verblydend om te sien dat daar tog nog jong seuns is wat stoetvee boerdery oorneem. Om vandag 'n bestaan uit veeboerdery te maak is 'n geweldige uitdaging. Dit verg kapitaal, vee- en landboukundige kennis asook bestuursvaardigheid en deursettingsvermoë. Vir die volhoubaarheid van die stoetbedryf beteken hierdie kontinuïteit besonder baie. Gee tog maar vroegtydig oor aan die jonger generasie boere. Hulle is trouens die entrepreneurs met nuwe idees en gedagtes. Moenie te lank aan die boerdery vasklou as u kinders belangstel om te kom boer nie. Dit demp hulle entoesiasme. Met die gevolg dat hulle later mag besluit om dalk glad nie plaas toe te kom nie. Moenie te veel inmeng nie, u kind sal weldra uit sy eie foute leer. Wanneer hy groot is sal hy erken, pa was reg. Nou is hy eers te trots.

Die getal ontluikende stoetters neem ook steeds toe wat die behoefte na opleiding al groter maak. Agra het hier 'n groot stap geneem met die onlangse aanstelling van Dr Hassel (veearts) wat betrokke is met die opleiding van ontluikende boere. Daarby het Agra Stoetveedienste die afgelope jaar verskeie ontluikende boere geadviseer met die aankoop van bulle en aanteeldiere asook met die

implementering van algemene boerderybestuurspraktyke, teeldoelwitte en seleksieprosedures.

Namibië is geseën met uitstekende genetiese groot- en kleinvee teeldiere wat uitstekend aangepas is onder die land se heersende klimaat- en omgewingsuiters. Die vernietigende effek van bosindringing op weiding ekosisteme bly egter steeds die vernaamste faktor wat volhoubare en winsgewende boerdery kniehalter. 'n Mens kan dus sê dat die genetiese potensiaal van Namibië se stoetdiere waarskynlik die voedingsvermoë van die land se natuurlike omgewing oortref. Gevolglik bereik stoetdiere, asook hul nageslag, nie hul volle genetiese potensiaal nie. Dit as gevolg van die beperking wat klimaatuiters en die dramatiese afname in die drakrag van die natuurlike weiding op die produksie-omgewing plaas. Ten opsigte van kommersiële groot- en kleinvee boerdery kan die vraag tereg gevra word, ervaar ons tans 'n verhoging in die produktiwiteit van kommersiële vleisproduksie in die land? Hou die kommersiële sektor tred met die vooruitgang in die stoetveebedryf? Hoe beïnvloed faktore soos onder meer die onsekerheid in die bedryf en die totale agteruitgang en verval van sekere plaasgronde, wat dwarsoor die land sigbaar is, kommersiële doeltreffendheid van produksie? Daar is egter ligpunte, want dit is verblydend om te sien dat daar wel groot projekte op veral kommersiële plase in die Gobabis, Okahandja, Hochfeld, Grootfontein en elders geloods word om die drakrag van die natuurlike weiding te herwin d.m.v ontbossing. Daarteenoor is die stoetbedryf besig om in getalle toe te neem, die kwaliteit verbeter, nuutste tegnologie ten opsigte van teling en seleksie hulpmiddels word aangewend, ensomeer. Op die huidige oomblik oortref die aanbod van kuddebulle en ramme die aanvraag. Indien ons egter die drakrag van die natuurlike weiding herwin kan die getalle van die kommersiële vroulike diere toeneem, doeltreffendheid van produksie kan verhoog wat die stoetbedryf op sy beurt sal stimuleer en stoetters behoort aan te moedig om meer winsgewende diere te teel.

Ondanks die ongunstige boerdery omgewing van 2007 het die stoetbedryf wel enkele hoogtepunte opgelewer wat 'n duidelike weerspieëling is van die genetiese meerderwaardigheid van Namibië se stoetdiere. Benewens die duurste bul wat verkoop is, is die hoogste gemiddelde prys per bul ooit behaal. Hardus en Ansie Breedt van die Rumba Simbrastoet het tydens die Windhoek skouveiling die Simbra bul "Dollar" aan Kerneels Derksin verkoop vir 'n ongelooflike prys van N\$ 135 000. Baie geluk aan Hardus en Ansie! 'n Mens word altyd beloon vir eerlike en harde werk. Daarteenoor

is die duurste ram deur Philip Strauss vir 'n allemintige prys van N\$160 000 van die hand gesit. Wat 'n besondere prestasie en baie geluk! Die koper was J.A. Steyn. Deur baie harde en toegewyde werk het Philip sy Dorperstoet met 'n passie opgebou en sy skou prestasies spreek vanself. Philip se bydrae aan die kleinveebedryf is van onskatbare waarde en Namibië is trots op hom. Insgelyks is die hoogste gemiddeld ooit van N\$ 21 813 behaal vir die 627 bulle wat in 2007 verkoop is. Soos wat die weidingstoestand na die einde van die jaar verswak het, het die aanvraag na bulle ook afgeneem en het die verkooppersentasie by van die veilings aansienlik gedaal. In die geval van die Dorpers het die tipe 5 ramme 'n gemiddeld van N\$ 15 556 (90 ramme) behaal wat opsigself 'n uitstekende prestasie is. Baie geluk ook aan die kleinveetelers!

Gedurende 2007 het Agra 29 grootvee- en 26 kleinveestoetveeilings landswyd aangebied. Die 627 bulle wat in 2007 verkoop is, is welliswaar minder as die rekordgetal van 835 bulle van die vorige jaar. Die twee faktore wat die grootste invloed op bulpryse het, is reëval en vleispryse. Daarom die laer getal bulle wat die afgelope jaar verkoop is. Wat die kleinvee betref is 'n totaal van 1 220 ramme verkoop teenoor die 1 184 van 2006 en 1 135 van 2005. Sowat 107 grootvee- en 73 kleinveestoetters het in 2007 diere deur Agra Stoetveedienste bemark.

Die volgende 10 grootveestoetveeilings het in 2007 die hoogste omsette behaal:

Central Select (N\$ 1 447 550)
Northern Select Winter Bull & Female Sale (N\$ 1 269 000)
Namibia Genetics (N\$ 1 178 200)
Windhoek Summer Sale (N\$ 927 500)
Superior Genetics (N\$ 909 000)
Weselike Bonsmara Veiling (N\$ 872 000)
Bonsmara Nasionale Veiling (N\$ 811 700)
Nguni Nasionale Veiling (N\$ 655 750)
Northern Select (N\$ 626 000)
Brahman Nasionale Veiling (N\$ 596 000)

Baie geluk aan die telers wat by bogenoemde veilings betrokke was. Die aanbod van bulle saam met goeie kwaliteit aanteeldiere raak meer populêr veral in goeie reënare wanneer 'n hoër aanvraag na aanteeldiere ervaar word.

Die Northern Select telers as groep het, soos die vorige twee jare, die hoogste omset van N\$ 1 895 000 behaal. Baie geluk aan Mecki en Brigitte Schneider, Hagen en Birgit Eggert, Guenter en Charlotte Hellinghausen, Sidney Martin, Ulla en Armin van Bijljon. Die aanbod van top kwaliteit diere, 'n katalogus met al die noodsaaklike besonderhede, voldoende advertensie, nasorgdiens aan kopers asook menslikheid en eerbaarheid is die sleutel tot die sukses van bogenoemde groep telers.

Wat die kleinveetelers betref het die volgende ses veilings die hoogste omsette behaal:

Philip Strauss Dorpers (N\$ 1 508 450)
KTG Elite (N\$ 933 650)
Lovedale Farming & Piet Jacobs (N\$ 694 500)



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Floors Nel & Kosie Esterhuizen (N\$ 631 150)
KTG Elite Herfs Veiling (N\$ 614 950)

Benewens die feit dat Philip Strauss Dorpers die hoogste omset van die kleinveestoeveilings behaal het, is dit ook die algehele hoogste omset van al die stoetvee veilings wat deur Agra aangebied is. Baie geluk aan Philip met hierdie besondere prestasie!

As groep het Riaan de Klerk die hoogste totale omset van N\$ 725 450 behaal, gevolg deur Francois & Wallace Theron, Kobus van Wyk en Nic Kruger met N\$ 687 150 en Paul en Arnold Klein met N\$ 580 950. Baie geluk ook aan hierdie telers met 'n puik prestasie!

Soos reeds genoem is die duurste bul (N\$ 135 000) wat vanjaar van die hand gesit is "Dollar", die pragtige Simbra bul van Hardus en Ansie Breedt. Die tweede duurste bul is 'n Simbra bul van Diethelm en Katja Metzger wat tydens die Central Select vir N\$ 124 000 verkoop is. Ander uitsonderlike prestasies is die Brahman bul "Fires" van Cobus van der Merwe wat vir N\$ 80 000 tydens die Brahman Nasionale veiling verkoop is, die Bonsmara bul van Ernie de Vries wat tydens die Bonsmara Nasionale veiling vir N\$ 72 000 van eienaar verwissel het en die Simmentaler bul van A P Bouwer wat aan sy vorige eienaar Stefan Voigts tydens die Summer Sale verkoop is vir N\$ 52 000. Dan is daar 7 bulle wat meer as N\$ 40 000 behaal het en 'n verdere 16 bulle wat N\$ 30 000 en duurder was.

Ten opsigte van die kleinvee het Philip Strauss vanjaar die duurste Dorper ram vir N\$ 160 000 van die hand gesit. Verder het Kosie Esterhuizen 'n Dorper ram vir N\$ 45 000 verkoop, terwyl Philip Strauss op die Topramveiling, 2 Dorper ramme vir onderskeidelik N\$ 42 000 en N\$ 36 000 verkoop het. Daarteenoor het Lovedale Farming 3 Karakoel ramme vir N\$ 38 000, N\$ 23 000 en N\$ 21 000 respektiewelik verkoop. Insgelyks het PA Karsten 2 Karakoel ramme vir onder meer N\$ 30 000 en N\$ 27 500 van die hand gesit. Die duurste Boerbok ram kom uit die stalle van De Klerk van Wyk en is vir N\$ 18 500 verkoop. Vervolgens het Francois Theron die duurste Van Rooy ram verkoop vir N\$ 5 500 terwyl Nic Kruger die duurste Damara ram vir N\$ 3 750 van die hand gesit het.

Die jaar 2007 sal in die toekoms gekenmerk word as 'n Simbra stoetvee veilingsjaar. Ondanks die feit dat 'n Simbra bul die hoogste prys behaal het, het die Simbras ook met die louere weggestap ten opsigte van die ras wat die hoogste gemiddelde prys behaal het. Die gemiddelde prys van N\$ 35 604 vir die 48 Simbra bulle wat verkoop is, is die hoogste gemiddeld wat ooit per ras behaal is. Dit is voorwaar 'n rekord waarop die Simbratelers trots kan wees. Die tweede hoogste gemiddeld gaan aan die 6 Braunvieh bulle wat vir 'n gemiddeld van N\$ 25 000 van die hand gesit is. Hierna volg die Simmentalers (140 bulle vir gemiddeld N\$ 21 832), Brahmane (174 bulle vir N\$ 21 581) en die Bonsmaras (146 bulle vir gemiddeld N\$ 21 267).

Soos verskeie kere in die verlede het die Brahmane weereens vanjaar die meeste bulle (174) verkoop, gevolg deur die Bonsmaras (146), Simmentalers (140) en die Simbras met 48 bulle.

Betreffende die kleinvee is die 948 Dorper ramme vir gemiddeld N\$ 5 472 verkoop, 113 Karakoel ramme vir gemiddeld N\$ 5 399, 103 Boerbok ramme vir N\$ 3 955, 10 Damara ramme vir N\$ 2 125 en 46 Van Rooy ramme vir gemiddeld N\$ 1 266.

Uiteraard is die gesogte prestasie sonder twyfel dié teler wat die hoogste gemiddeld per produksie veiling behaal.

Vir 2007 gaan hierdie eer aan Diethelm en Katja Metzger wat tydens die Central Select, 16 Simbra bulle verkoop het vir 'n uitsonderlike gemiddeld van N\$ 38 375. Hierna volg Hardus en Ansie Breedt (3 bulle van N\$ 31 333), Friedrich Redecker (5 bulle van N\$ 30 400), Reinie Rusch (5 bulle van N\$ 28 200), Hagen en Birgit Eggert (5 bulle van N\$ 26 200), J. Oberholster (3 bulle van N\$ 25 333), Hans-Peter Deloch (12 bulle van N\$ 25 166) en Hannes Human (3 bulle van N\$ 25 000).

In die geval van die kleinvee gaan die eer aan Lovedale Farming wat tydens die KTG Elite, 6 Karakoelramme van die hand gesit het vir 'n gemiddeld van N\$ 16 417. Insgelyks het P.A. Karsten 2 Karakoel ramme op die KTG Elite verkoop vir gemiddeld N\$ 16 000, Lovedale Farming op die Karakoel ramveiling 'n verdere 9 Karakoel ramme vir gemiddeld N\$ 13 889, terwyl G.T. Karsten 18 Karakoel ramme vir 'n gemiddeld van N\$ 12 417, Gellap-Ost 12 ramme vir gemiddeld N\$ 11 542, K. Kotze 8 ramme vir gemiddeld N\$ 9 750 en J.H. Duvenhage 10 ramme vir gemiddeld N\$ 9 700 verkoop het. Ten opsigte van die Dorpers het Philip Strauss 75 ramme vir 'n fenominale gemiddeld van N\$ 12 037 verkoop, terwyl Paul en Arnold Klein 5 ramme vir gemiddeld N\$ 8 180 van die hand gesit het.

Die hoogtepunt van 2007 is ongetwyfeld die prestasie wat die Simbra telers behaal het. Nie alleen het hulle die duurste (N\$ 135 000) en tweede duurste bulle (N\$ 124 000) verkoop nie, maar ook die hoogste gemiddeld (N\$ 35 604) per ras behaal. Daarby is 6 Simbra koeie tydens die Windhoek skouveiling vir gemiddeld N\$ 24 667 verkoop, terwyl op die Central Select 17 Simbra verse van eienaar verwissel het vir 'n gemiddeld van N\$ 12 412. Die belangstelling vanuit Suid-Afrika vir Namibiese Simbras is 'n aanduiding van die genetiese kwaliteit van diere wat deur Namibiese telers geteel word. Baie geluk aan die Simbratelers met 'n besondere prestasie. Hierdie prestasie behoort as aansporing vir ander rasse te dien. Vir die stoetbedryf sal dit baie beteken as daar meer-en-meer Suid Afrikaanse kopers in Namibiese genetiese materiaal belangstel.

'n Verdere hoogtepunt was die Brahman - sowel as die Bonsmara Nasionale veilings wat onderskeidelik gemiddeldes van N\$ 29 800 vir 20 bulle en N\$ 31 391 vir 23 bulle behaal het. Hierdie suksesvolle resultate van Namibië se nasionale veilings beklemtoon weereens die waarde van sodanige veilings insake die genetiese materiaal wat alhier geteel word en die beskikbaarmaking daarvan op 'n geordende wyse aan die bedryf.

Die Superior Genetics het alle verwagtinge oortref. 50 Brahman, Simmentaler, Sussex en Hereford bulle van 7 telers (Friedrich Redecker, Rynand Mudge, Claus Duvel, Marlese Rusch, Cobus van der Merwe, Mike Krafft en Reinie Rusch) is aangebied waarvan 40 bulle van die hand gesit is vir 'n gemiddeld van N\$ 22 725. Wanneer die aanbod uit 'n variasie van rasse met meerderwaardige genetiese kwaliteit bestaan, is die belangstelling van die koper se kant des te meer.

Vir die eerste keer is 'n baie suksesvolle Simmentaler Nasionale veiling aangebied (16 bulle teen 'n gemiddeld van N\$ 26 438). Die aanbod was egter klein en die vertroue is dat die aanbod vanjaar aansienlik groter sal wees. Die Simbratelers kan selfs besluit om uit eie geleedere hierdie veiling te ondersteun. Dit behoort meer kopers na die Nasionale veiling te trek met hopelik soortgelyke resultate as die ander Nasionale veilings.

Insake die kleinvee troon die prestasie wat die Karakoel telers vanjaar behaal het uit soos 'n paal bo water. Vir jare se harde werk en deurstellings vermoë word telers ten einde en laaste beloon. Baie geluk ook

aan die telers met die publiserings van 'n boek wat 'n samevatting is van die Karakoel se bestaan die afgelope 100 jaar in Namibië. Dit is voorwaar 'n mylpaal. Die prestasie wat Philip Strauss (20 tipe 5 ramme vir 'n gemiddeld van N\$ 28 175 : totaal 75 ramme vir gemiddeld N\$ 12 037) op sy produksie veiling van 22 Februarie 2007 behaal het, is 'n hoogtepunt wat moeilik in die toekoms oortref sal word.

Opsommend is die stoetveilings deur die volgende tendense gekenmerk:

- Die gemiddelde prys vir bulle en ramme was uitsonderlik hoog.
- Die hoogste prys ooit is behaal.
- Minder bulle is verkoop teenoor meer ramme.
- Brahman, Bonsmara en Simmentaler bulle bly steeds hoog in aanvraag.
- Simbra bulle was vanjaar meer in aanvraag en is teen uitsonderlike pryse verhandel.
- Karakoel ramme was hoog in aanvraag en het ook teen buitengewone pryse verhandel.
- Kwaliteit Dorper ramme behaal steeds goeie pryse en behoort so voort te duur.
- Minder aantel diere is verkoop teenoor verlede jaar.
- Die aanvraag na kwaliteit stoet bulle en - ramme neem jaarliks toe.
- Grensbeheer en binnelandse verslagings het die aanvraag na vetstertipes soos Damara en Van Rooy op veilings laat daal.

Vir die eerste keer spog 'n Namibiese Teler met die prestige titel van Suider-Afrikaanse Vleisbeesteler van die jaar. Namibië is trots op Mecki en Brigitte Schneider met die verowering van hierdie gesogte prys. Okabra Brahmane verdien hierdie toekening. Verder het Dr Arthur Bagot-Smith die toekening van Simbrabul van die jaar en 'n nuwe teler Danie Botes die toekening van Brahmanbul van die jaar verower wat ook prysenswaardig is.

Uitdagings aan die stoetbedryf:

- Elke stoeteler en kommersiële produsent behoort die doelwit te hê om jaarliks ten minste 'n minimum van 200 ha te ontbos ten einde die natuurlike hulpbron, wat eens die goedkoopste voedingsbron vir diere was, te herwin.
- Verhoog die dragak en produktiwiteit van u bestaande grond aangesien die aanskaffing van addisionele grond onmoontlik is. Die produksie van addisionele voer in terme van aangeplante weidings en voergewasse behoort meer aandag te geniet.
- Handhaaf goeie arbeidsverhoudinge met u werkers. Verhoog hulle vermoëns en effektiwiteit deur die bywoning van kursusse. Bekwame werkers bevorder doeltreffende kudde- en algehele plaasbestuur.
- Gee meer aandag aan die ondersoek en implementering van organiese veeboerdery praktyke.
- Neem kennis van die behoeftes van die kommersiële bedryf. Hoe groter is nie noodwendig beter nie. Kry 'n balans tussen u produksie-omgewing en die markbehoefte.
- Wend beraamde teelwaardes in balans aan met ander seleksie hulpmiddels, veral voorkoms norme gebaseer op funksionele doeltreffendheid. Onthou altyd dat Namibië 'n land van omgewingsuiterstes is. Lê meer klem op teelwaardes vir maternale produksie, geboorte, 200 dae, 600 dae, melk- en karkaseienskappe in u teel- en seleksiedoelwitte om die meer winsgewende diere te identifiseer. Dit sal mebring dat ons mooi en funksionele en winsgewende diere teel.

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STOETVEE BEHAAL REKORD PRYSE

- Bogenoemde inligting behoort in elke katalogus te verskyn. Slegs 'n vaer, moer en geboortedatum is nie meer vir die moderne boer aanvaarbaar nie.
- Korrekte veeartsenykundige inligting moet in die katalogus verskyn veral ten opsigte van vrugbaarheidstoetse en skedewasse wat op bulle gedoen is, dragtigheidstoetse op vroulike diere en alle inentings en doserings wat uitgevoer is. Vrugbaarheid- en dragtigheidsertifikaat moet die dag voor die veiling ingehandig word.
- Die internet sal 'n al meer betekenisvolle rol vervul in die verskaffing van inligting oor stoetdiere en die promosie van u stoet in Afrika en die res van die wêreld.
- Protokole sal in plek moet kom vir die uitvoer van genetiese materiaal. Die stoetbedryf sal die inisiatief

moet neem en in samewerking met die owerheid hierdie aksie dryf.

- Die behoefte na 'n tegniese adviesdiens op die plaas behoort georganiseerd deur die bedryf aangespreek te word.

Baie dankie aan die telers wat hulle inligting betyds aan die kantoor besorg het. Diegene wat dit nie gedoen het nie, probeer dit asseblief hierdie jaar doen. Elke teler sal 'n skrywe ontvang waarin aangedui sal word, die veiling(s) waarby u betrokke is en die teikendatum wanneer inligting die kantoor moet bereik.

Agra wil ook op hierdie wyse sy dank en waardering uitspreek teenoor alle groot- en kleinveetelers wat hulle veilings aan Agra toevertrou het. Namens Agra en alle stoettelers wil ons ook alle kopers wat die veilings deur die jaar ondersteun het, bedank vir julle getroue ondersteuning.

Ek wil ook die geleentheid gebruik om vir Suzanne en Zanelle in die kantoor dankie te sê vir hulle toegewyde en onbaatsigtig diens wat somtyds baie lang ure na werkstyd ingesluit het. Aan Gert en Jan baie dankie ook vir julle insette in die suide. Agra is trots op dit wat julle in 'n kort tyd vermag het!

Dit is Agra stoetveedienste se missie om met 'n passie 'n professionele, flink en eerlike diens aan die stoetbedryf te lewer.

Alle sukses met u teling en bemarking vanjaar. Ons sien uit om al die nuwe teelbulle en -ramme wat gekoop is onder oë te neem, asook u aanbod vir 2008.

Dis ons bede dat stabiliteit en vooruitgang in ons mooi land sal seëvier. Ons verneem met dankbaarheid in ons harte van die wydverspreide reën wat so onverdiend in Februarie ontvang is.

Opsomming van 2007 Bulveilings

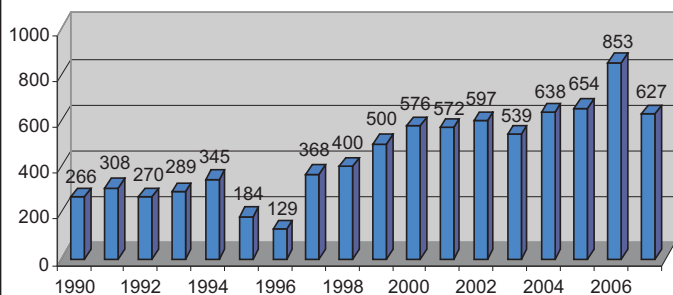
Veiling	Ras	Verkoop	Gem. Prys (N\$)	Hoogste Prys (N\$)
Windhoek Summer Sale 15/02/07	Bonsmara	4	19 750	26 000
	Brahman	4	19 750	27 000
	Hereford	1	8 000	8 000
	Santa Gertrudis	5	12 200	16 000
	Simbra	5	24 000	27 000
	Simmentaler	16	21 688	52 000
Hochfeld Gesamentlik 01/06/07	Brahman	7	19 357	25 000
	Braunvieh	1	15 000	15 000
	Limousin	1	16 500	16 500
	Simmentaler	7	18 500	21 500
Northern Select Winter Bull & Female Auction 08/06/07	Brahman	21	22 476	42 000
	Simmentaler	20	20 400	34 000
Nguni Nasionaal 06/07/07	Nguni	10	16 350	30 500
Noordelike Santa 27/07/07	Santa Gertrudis	24	15 479	29 000
Noordelike Bul 01/08/07	Angus	2	12 000	15 000
	Brahman	7	18 786	23 500
	Limousin	3	18 500	19 000
	Simbra	2	21 000	21 000
	Simmentaler	5	21 600	28 000
Noordelike Bonsmara 15/08/07	Bonsmara	20	17 300	25 000
Simmentaler Nasionaal 16/08/07	Simmentaler	16	26 438	45 000
Brahman Nasionaal 21/08/07	Brahman	20	29 800	80 000
Emok Bonsmaras 24/08/07	Bonsmara	4	16 500	19 000
Namibia Genetics 31/08/07	Angus	3	17 000	22 000
	Beefmaster	7	17 857	22 000
	Brahman	8	21 875	26 000
	Charolais	3	17 333	23 000
	Limousin	5	23 600	28 000
	Simbra	3	20 000	23 500
Simmentaler	2	23 000	29 000	
Duikersvlei 05/09/07	Bonsmara	4	17 750	24 000
	Brahman	2	17 000	19 000
	Simbra	0	0	0
	Simmentaler	4	15 500	16 000
Stampriet Bul 07/09/07	Brahman	6	21 917	35 000
	Brangus	4	13 375	17 000
	Limousin	2	15 000	15 000
	Nguni	1	7 000	7 000
Eastern Genetics 07/09/07	Beefmaster	0	0	0
	Bonsmara	1	14 000	14 000
	Brahman	0	0	0
	Charolais	2	16 250	16 500
	Hereford	0	0	0
	Santa Gertrudis	3	24 000	41 000
Simmentaler	1	21 000	21 000	

Veiling	Ras	Verkoop	Gem. Prys (N\$)	Hoogste Prys (N\$)
Central Select 12/09/07	Brahman	5	16 200	18 000
	Limousin	3	19 000	26 000
	Simbra	16	42 375	124 000
	Simmentaler	16	23 188	32 000
Bonsmara Nasionaal 14/09/07	Bonsmara	23	31 391	72 000
Superior Genetics 19/09/07	Brahman	23	24 000	41 000
	Hereford	1	12 000	12 000
	Simmentaler	12	23 750	36 000
	Sussex	4	15 000	15 000
St Blaize 21/09/07	Brahman	15	21 400	30 000
	Sussex	13	18 538	22 000
Freyer & Seuns 25/09/07	Bonsmara	7	21 714	27 000
Windhoek Skou 05/10/07	Brahman	7	26 571	38 000
	Brangus	1	20 000	20 000
	Braunvieh	4	29 250	46 000
	Hereford	0	0	0
	Limousin	0	0	0
	Simbra	12	49 167	135 000
	Simmentaler	5	29 600	42 000
Sussex	2	25 500	32 000	
R & M Rusch 09/10/07	Brahman	5	22 000	35 000
	Simmentaler	18	20 778	30 000
Hochfeldstreek Bonsmaras 10/10/07	Bonsmara	17	19 176	36 000
Paresis 12/10/07	Bonsmara	1	20 000	20 000
	Brahman	0	0	0
	Braunvieh	1	21 000	21 000
	Limousin	0	0	0
	Simbra	7	22 714	36 000
	Simmentaler	5	19 200	31 000
Sussex	0	0	0	
Hochfeld Gesamentlik 16/10/07	Bonsmara	9	19 556	36 000
	Brahman	8	17 250	22 000
	Braunvieh	0	0	0
	Hereford	6	17 667	22 000
	Simmentaler	9	17 889	23 000
Khomas Gesamentlik 19/10/07	Beefmaster	2	13 000	13 000
	Bonsmara	12	17 250	35 000
	Brahman	2	21 500	23 000
	Limousin	1	15 000	15 000
	Santa	0	0	0
	Simbra	3	20 000	22 000
	Simmentaler	1	15 000	15 000
Sussex	4	18 000	21 000	
Otavi Star 26/10/07	Brahman	7	18 971	27 000
	Gelbvieh	0	0	0
	Simmentaler	1	17 000	17 000
Northern Select 02/11/07	Brahman	27	21 519	39 000
	Simmentaler	2	22 500	24 000
Westelike Bonsmara 07/11/07	Bonsmara	30	23 433	46 000
Oostelike Bonsmara	Bonsmara	14	15 929	24 000

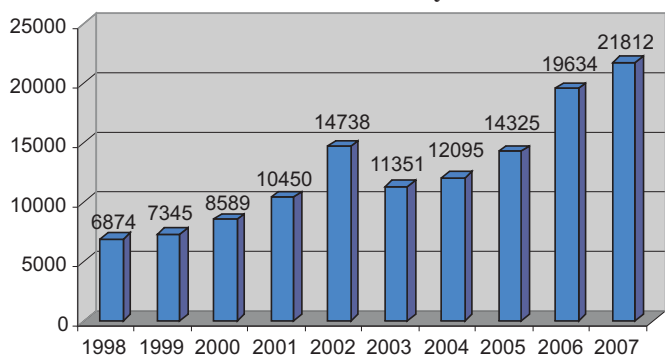
Opsomming per ras van 2007 Bulveelings

Ras	Aantal Verkoop	Gem. Prys (N\$)	Hoogste Prys (N\$)	Duurste prys gekoop (Koper)	Duurste prys verkoop (Teler)
Afrikaner	0	0	0	0	0
Angus	5	15 000	22 000	C J Greeff	G J G Vermeulen
Beefmaster	9	16 778	22 000	I J Coetzee	R van der Merwe
Bonsmara	146	21 267	72 000	Bacab (Pty) Ltd	E M Arnold
Brahman	174	21 581	80 000	A X Compion	J A van der Merwe
Brangus	5	14 700	20 000	G J G Vermeulen	Delpport Brangus Boerdery
Braunvieh	6	25 000	46 000	J N Botha	D B Delpport
Charolais	5	16 900	23 000	T Z M Hijarunguru	J A Calitz
Hereford	8	15 750	22 000	W Kronke W M S Farming	H Kebbel Kebbel
Limousin	15	19 467	28 000	A P Jamieson	W S Tromp
Nguni	11	15 500	30 500	Blue View Holdings	H Held
Santa Gertrudis	32	15 766	41 000	Oosthuizensrust CC	M C Human
Simbra	48	35 604	135 000	C Derksen Trust	H Breedt
Simmentaler	140	21 832	52 000	H G S Voigts	Ombika Boerdery
Sussex	23	18 435	32 000	R Retief	J A van der Merwe

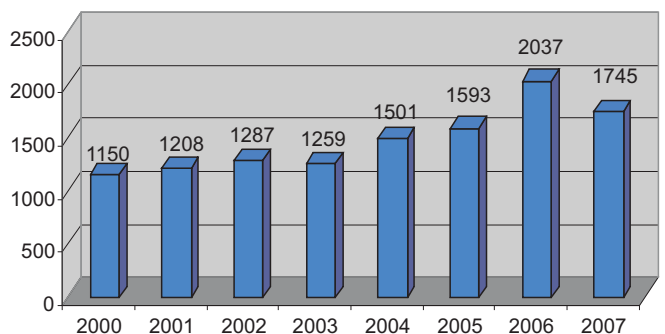
Aantal bulle verkoop 1990 - 2007



Gemiddelde Bul Pryse



Beesgetalle per jaar bemark



Opsomming per ras van 2007 Kleinveeveelings

Ras	Aantal Verkoop	Gem. Prys (N\$)	Hoogste Prys (N\$)	Duurste prys gekoop (Koper)	Duurste prys verkoop (Teler)
Boerbok	103	3 955	18 500	J C van Wyk	De Klerk van Wyk
Damara	10	2 125	3 750	B du Plessis	N Kruger
Dorper	948	5 472	160 000	J A Steyn	P Strauss
Karakoel	113	5 399	38 000	W J N Louw	Lovedale Farming CC
Van Rooy	46	1 266	5 500	P B Viljoen	S F Theron

Opsomming van 2007 Kleinveeveelings

Veiling	Ras	Verkoop	Gem. Prys (N\$)	Hoogste Prys (N\$)	
Riaan de Klerk 18/01/07	Dorper Klas 5	10	11 450	18 000	
	Dorper	49	3 457	7 500	
	Dorper Stoet	22	4 818	10 000	
	Boerbok	6	3 383	4 200	
Binneman & Dreyer 25/01/07	Dorper Klas 5	10	11 400	21 000	
	Dorper	24	4 583	6 500	
	Dorper Stoet	11	6 159	9 000	
	Boerbok	12	6 063	8 250	
Koës Dorper 01/02/07	Dorper Klas 5	1	5 750	5 750	
	Dorper	26	3 779	5 000	
	Dorper Stoet	11	5 045	6 750	
Philip Strauss 22/02/07	Dorper Klas 5	20	28 175	160 000	
	Dorper Veld	50	5 446	14 000	
	Dorper Stoet	29	8 445	16 000	
	Boerbok	4	4 100	5 000	
Gesamentlike Produksie Veiling, Theron, Kruger & van Wyk 28/02/07	Damara	4	2 250	3 000	
	Dorper Veld	9	3 556	4 500	
	Dorper Stoet	3	3 833	4 000	
	Van Rooy	24	3 152	5 500	
Boerbok	21	6 310	14 000		
	Morgenson Wit Dorpers 03/04/07	Dorper Klas 5	1	12 000	12 000
		Dorper Stoet	9	5 889	8 500
Dorper Veld		35	3 960	5 100	
P & A Klein 19/04/07	Dorper Klas 5	5	10 900	16 000	
	Dorper Ram	49	3 488	10 500	
	Dorper Stoet	17	4 879	12 500	
Karakoel Ram Veiling, Karsten & van der Westhuizen 26/04/07	Karakoel	85	6 253	30 000	
Fedcor Farming 27/04/07	Boerbok	11	2 918	5 000	
KTG Elite 03/05/07	Karakoel	72	8 329	21 000	
	Boerbok	7	2 179	3 000	
Boerbok Nasionaal 11/05/07	Boerbok	26	5 033	18 500	
Dorper Topram 24/05/07	Dorper Klas 5	5	21 980	42 000	
	Dorper Stoet	16	5 225	8 000	
	Dorper Veld	23	3 348	7 000	
Von Hase & Schreiber 03/07/07	Karakoel	35	4 369	9 000	
Dorper Streekveiling, Karaburg 11/07/07	Dorper Klas 5	1	9 000	9 000	
	Dorper	21	2 957	3 750	
	Dorper Stoet	8	4 125	5 000	
Lovedale Farming & Jacobs 25/07/07	Karakoel	67	10 366	23 000	
Riaan de Klerk 26/07/07	Dorper Klas 5	3	7 167	10 000	
	Dorper Stoet	12	4 708	6 000	
	Dorper Veld	28	3 071	4 250	
	Boerbok	1	2 000	2 000	
Hoecon Dorper & Wit Dorper 07/08/07	Dorper Klas 5	5	6 040	7 000	
	Dorper	26	3 358	4 600	
	Dorper Stoet	15	5 093	6 000	
Veldramveiling 10/08/07	Damara	6	2 042	3 750	
	Dorper	11	3 136	4 250	
	Boerbok	10	3 500	6 000	
	Van Rooy	22	2 648	4 500	
E von Schaaroth 14/08/07	Dorper Klas 5	2	5 600	6 200	
	Dorper	37	3 176	4 800	
	Dorper Stoet	2	4 400	4 500	
Aranos Dorper 16/08/07	Dorper	55	3 956	6 700	
	Dorper Stoet	15	6 147	15 000	
KTG Elite 14/09/07	Karakoel	113	7 996	38 000	
	Boerbok	2	2 875	3 000	
Mariental Dorper 18/09/07	Dorper	22	3 466	5 500	
	Dorper Stoet	9	4 222	6 000	
P & A Klein 18/10/07	Dorper Klas 5	2	7 750	8 000	
	Dorper	30	3 260	4 500	
	Dorper Stoet	11	4 982	8 500	
H Duvenhage 16/10/07	Karakoel	72	4 194	11 500	
Nell & Esterhuizen 11/10/07	Dorper Klas 5	15	18 067	45 000	
	Dorper	36	4 222	6 000	
	Dorper Stoet	24	6 392	13 500	
	Boerbok	3	4 467	5 200	
Aroab Excelcior 08/11/07	Dorper Klas 5	5	8 040	10 500	
	Dorper	34	3 815	5 700	
	Dorper Stoet	19	4 853	7 500	
Ariwa Dorpers 15/11/07	Dorper Klas 5	5	7 900	13 000	
	Dorper	45	3 458	4 000	
	Dorper Stoet	15	5 800	13 500	

IS U TEVREDE MET ONS DIENS OF WIL U IETS ONDER ONS AANDAG BRING?



“Skakel ons gerus.”

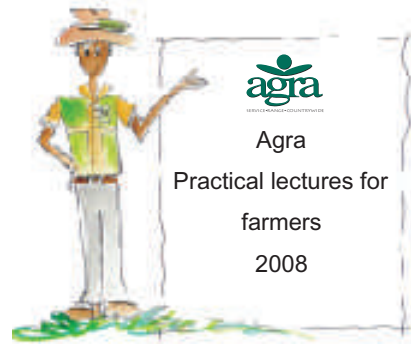


Agra verbind hom daartoe om 'n landswye goeie dienservaring aan ons kliënte te bied en die implementering van 'n kliëntedienslyn is die eerste stap in die vestiging van ons kliëntedienseenheid.

Hierdie kliëntedienslyn bied aan u die geleentheid om u ervaring van Agra se diens met ons te deel. Toegewyde personeel sal met u kommunikeer, probleme en oorsake van probleme identifiseer, oplossings vind en implementeer. Skakel ons gerus en help ons om die beste diens aan u te bied sodat Agra u eerste keuse sal wees.



Vir meer inligting: (061) 290 9111, marketing@agra.com.na, www.agra.com.na



PROGRAM

- Thursday, 13 March Keetmanshoop
- Thursday, 3 April Gobabis
- Thursday 3 July Windhoek
- Tuesday 19 August Opuwo
- Thursday 21 August Tsumeb

TOPICS

- An insight into livestock auctions in Namibia.
- Integrating farming and problem animals.
- Supplementation of cattle – economic and other benefits, by Voermeester
- Basic animal health practices and the use of the Farm First Aid Kit.

For more information, call Albé Snyman: 0612909273 or Adelheid Mouton 061-2909335

AGRA'S "WIN A RHINO" COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The New Year could not have started better for 5 lucky prize winners in Agra's Christmas promotion competition, which came to an end on the 24th December 2007. During the Christmas period, shoppers had the chance of winning valuable prizes by entering a competition when purchasing goods to the value of N\$ 1000 at any Agra branch countrywide. Five prizes were up for grabs. The final draw took place on the 25th January 2008 and the lucky winners are as follows:

1st Prize	Rhino Walk-in Freezer	Mr D.G Strauss, Rehoboth
2nd Prize	Quad Bike	Aru Game Lodge, Windhoek
3rd Prize	Dishwasher	Mr A.G van Biljon, Grootfontein
4th Prize	Tumble Dryer	Mr G.R von Wielligh, Keetmanshoop
5th Prize	Tool Set	Mr S.F van Wyk, Otavi



On the photo (f.l.t.r) Kobus Jacobs, Agra's National Sales & Operations Manager, Titus Julius, Agra Rehoboth Branch Manager, Mr D.G Strauss, winner of the first prize and Agra's Marketing Officer, Ulandi Philander at the handing over ceremony.

“WEEG JOU WINSTE MET AGRA” KOMPETISIE SKOP AF

Agra, in samewerking met Virbac kondig aan dat 'n nuwe Agravet kompetisie geloods is vanaf 1 Februarie 2008. Die kompetisie genaamd “weeg jou winste met Agra” behels die volgende:

6 Elektroniese skaap- en 3 elektroniese beesskale kan gewen word oor 'n periode van 9 maande. Daar sal elke 3 maande 'n trekking by Agra gehou word waar die wenners vir 2 skaap- en 1 beesskaal bepaal sal word. Die waarde van die skale is soos volg: N\$3000

vir die skaapskaal en N\$6 000 vir die beesskaal. Al wat u as boer en kliënt van Agra moet doen om vir die kompetisie te kwalifiseer, is om na jou naaste Agra tak te gaan en die Agravet en Agramectin produkte aan te koop. N\$500-00 se produkte sal jou laat kwalifiseer vir een inskrywing op 'n skaapskaal en N\$1000-00 se produkte aankope sal jou laat kwalifiseer vir een inskrywing op 'n beesskaal. Maak dus jou keuse of jy 'n skaap- of beesskaal wil wen, beplan jou aankope saam met jou Agra takbestuurder of Virbac Tegnieese

Verkoop Adviseur en wag vir die uitslag van die kompetisie.

Die Agravet en Agramectin reeks produkte word deur Virbac Dieregesondheid in hulle ISO9002 goedgekeurde vervaardigings fasiliteit in Samrand Centurion, RSA vervaardig. Die produkte tel onder die leiers in die mark in Suider Afrika en is die mark leiers in Namibië. Met die Agravet en Agramectin reeks produkte is Agra en Virbac die Namibiese boer se vennoot in dieregesondheid.

Principles of the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials (Part 2)

Basic assumptions

The prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine is the scientific and technically directed use of these compounds, which should form an integral part of good veterinary and animal husbandry practices.

Methods of disease prevention, e.g. vaccination and improvements in conditions of husbandry must be considered when disease problems occur, thus minimizing the use of antimicrobials. The use of antibiotics should not compensate for deficient animal husbandry practices.

General principles

- 1) Antimicrobials should be used under the supervision of a veterinarian within the context of a valid veterinarian client patient relationship.
- 2) Veterinarians should work with those responsible for the care of animals to encourage the judicious use of antimicrobials, regardless of the distribution system through which the antimicrobial was obtained.
- 3) Therapeutic antimicrobials should only be used when it is known or suspected that an infectious agent is present, which will be susceptible to therapy.
- 4) Regimens for therapeutic antimicrobial use should be optimized using current pharmacological information and principles.
- 5) Therapeutic antimicrobial treatment should be limited to ill or at risk animals, treating the fewest animals indicated.
- 6) Environmental contamination with antimicrobials is to be avoided, whenever possible.
- 7) Accurate records of treatment and outcome should be used to evaluate therapeutic regimens.
- 8) Instructions on labels should be carefully followed and due attention paid to species and disease indications and contra indications, dosage regimens and storage instructions. The use of antimicrobials in other species than indicated, so called extra label use should be exceptional and always under the professional responsibility of a veterinarian.
- 9) Emphasis should be placed on the prevention of the disease and alternative therapeutic options in order to minimize the incidence of disease and therefore the need for antimicrobial use.
- 10) Antimicrobials considered important in treating stubborn infections in human or veterinary medicine should only be used in animals after careful consideration and adequate justification.

Responsibilities of the users of antimicrobial drugs

Isolate sick animals to decrease the transfer of resistant bacteria.

Use antimicrobial drugs only on veterinary prescription and according to the provision of the prescription.

Store veterinary products that contain antimicrobials correctly.

Practice good hygiene when there is contact between people and infected animals.

Comply with the recommended withdrawal periods.

Dispose of surplus antimicrobials in a manner that will not contaminate the environment. Partially used products should not be kept for later use, unless this is authorized by a veterinarian.

Strategies should be developed to prevent recurrent disease problems.

Livestock owners should keep adequate records of:

- a) Date of administration of antimicrobial agent.
- b) Identification of animal or group of animals treated.
- c) Diagnosis of the disease or condition that was treated.
- d) Identity and quantity of the antimicrobial agent administered.
- e) Name and address of supplier.
- f) Batch number and date of expiration.
- g) Withdrawal periods.
- h) Results of laboratory tests.
- i) Effectiveness of the treatment.

Adverse Drug Reactions

Adverse reactions and/or side effects to antimicrobial substances may be directly related to the dose (low dose, no side effects, the higher the dose, the greater the danger of side effects), or may occur at normal therapeutic dosages. The reactions may occur immediately (acutely) or result in chronic effects due to continued long term use. The use of antimicrobial drugs therefore must at all times be defensible on the basis of assessing risk versus benefit.

Direct organ system toxicity

Antimicrobial disease therapy is based on the principle that toxicity for the disease causing organism will occur before any toxic effect on the host. This, however, varies a lot, with some agents that are very safe, for example Beta -Lactams

(Penicillin G, Ampicillin, Amoxycillin) and others that are dangerously toxic, like the aminoglycosides (Neomycin, Kanamycin, Gentamycin). If a disease causes specific organ damage, then antimicrobials that are also toxic for those specific organs, must be avoided, for example aminoglycosides for kidney damage or macrolides (Tylosin, Clindamycin) for liver damage. Antimicrobials with a low safety margin should not be administered to animals with disease of those organs responsible for the elimination of the drug from the body.

Teratogenicity

It must be remembered when using antimicrobials in pregnant animals, that most drugs cross the placental barrier and can cause toxicities in the offspring without affecting the dam. Beta- lactams, macrolides and lincosamides (Lincocin) are considered safe in pregnancy.

Effects on the intestinal flora

The use of antimicrobials may interfere with the protective effect of the normal intestinal microflora of the host or disturb the metabolic function of the microbes in the digestive tract of herbivores, particularly with agents that are administered by mouth and with the long term use of broad spectrum antibiotics.

Hypersensitivity reactions

Although hypersensitivity or allergic reactions are rare in veterinary medicine, it is just common sense not to administer a particular antimicrobial to an animal with a history of hypersensitivity to that specific substance.

Tissue reactions

A number of antimicrobial drugs and formulations may cause tissue reactions and tissue damage at the site of injection. The severity of this tissue damage may vary in different species. Oxytetracyclines (Terramycin, Hi-Tet) can cause severe tissue damage and should not be injected by the subcutaneous or intramuscular route to dogs and cats. If injected in the vicinity of a nerve, the nerve damage may lead to paralysis and possible loss of function of an entire limb.

Reference: Technical Guidelines for the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine in South Africa. Medicines Committee of the South African Veterinary Association.

Arthropod Borne Diseases

Dr. Rainer Hassel, AGRA Animal Scientist

These are infectious diseases transmitted by arthropod vectors and include those transmitted by insects, ticks, tsetse flies etc. Problems with these diseases are usually as a result of an increase in the vector population, which in turn is associated with the rainy season. Average, but especially above average rainfall, then can lead to an outbreak of one or more of these diseases. Control measures and vaccination programs must be adjusted to take these factors into considerations. A number of important arthropod borne diseases are highlighted in this article.

1) Three-Day Stiffsickness (Ephemeral Fever) in cattle



Animals affected by TDSS are unable to get up or swallow.

Three-Day Stiffsickness (TDSS) is an insect borne viral disease of cattle, occurring mainly in late summer and autumn (March until May). It is transmitted by the bite of *Culicoides* midges as well as *Anopheles* and *Culex* mosquitoes. It is suspected that other insects may also transmit the virus, but they have not been identified yet. The disease has a short incubation period of 5 days, has a sudden onset and usually a short duration of a few days, hence the name. Mortality rates are usually only 2 - 3%, but a severe drop in milk production (up to 90%), marked loss of condition and abortions in pregnant cows can result in serious economic losses. TDSS is one of the most important erosive diseases in dairy herds in southern Africa. Heavy animals and dairy cattle are most commonly affected and pure bred animals seem to be more susceptible than cross bred cattle. The most susceptible breeds seem to be Holstein and Brahman cattle.

Occurrence: The disease has a seasonal occurrence, most commonly from March - May. Epidemic outbreaks are associated with above average rainfall. Poor rainfall is usually associated with few isolated cases. The disease disappears after the first frost but the virus may overwinter in game species since TDSS antibodies have been detected in species like buffalo and hartebeest.

Immunity: Animals which recover from TDSS usually develop a lifelong immunity and are hardly ever affected again. Vaccines are cumbersome to use and not very effective and only produce a partial immunity. Calves of vaccinated cows are protected by a passive immunity via the colostrums for about 6 months.

Symptoms: Symptoms can vary from mild to moderate to severe. Mildly affected cattle are listless, have a very high fever for a short time, and are stiff

and reluctant to walk. Although they still eat, milk production drops significantly and there is a severe loss of condition. Generally animals recover completely after a few days. Moderately affected animals, apart from being stiff, lose their appetite, are separated from the rest of the herd, and develop a shifting lameness in all the limbs. The joints become swollen and there is a discharge from the eyes and the nose. Swelling of the head as a result of accumulation of subcutaneous fluid (oedema) can occur occasionally and bulls can become temporarily infertile and will produce abnormal sperm. In severe cases the animal lies down in sternal recumbency, with the head turned on its flank and cannot get up again. There are muscle tremors, salivation and paralysis of the oesophagus leading to bloat. Rumen stasis and constipation are common complications, as are bedsores and pneumonia in long standing cases. Eventually animals can become comatose and die.

Diseases which can have similar symptoms include Hypocalcaemia, Botulism, Black Quarter, physical injuries and Crotoalaria plant poisoning.

Treatment: There is no specific treatment for the TDSS virus. Provide sufficient clean drinking water and palatable nutritious food. Let the animal rest and protect it against heat stress, wind and cold. Administer fluids in case of dehydration. Anti-inflammatory drugs and multivitamins are usually administered. Give calcium, zinc and iron preparations if possible (they counter act stiffness and paralysis) and give preparations to treat rumen stasis and constipation. (Refer to *Manual of the Farm First Aid Kit*). Systemic antibiotics are required to treat cases of secondary pneumonia.

Prevention and Control: Vaccination of all animals older than six months during spring (September - November), with a second vaccination 4 - 6 weeks later, in the light of the relatively poor immune response. Annual revaccination is advised. It is safe to vaccinate pregnant cows. The TDSS vaccine can be administered simultaneously with other vaccines. Do not slaughter animals for human consumption within 7 days following vaccination. Since the vaccine only produces partial immunity, total reliance must not be placed on vaccination alone, but on insect control as well. During summer or during the rainy season, when the insect population is high cattle should be treated regularly with a pyrethroid containing spray or pour-on. Cattle should also be kept away from low lying areas, vleis, dams, pans and rivers, where the highest insect population can be expected, and especially at night, when the insects are active.

2) Lumpy Skin Disease

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) is an insect borne viral disease of cattle which occurs mainly during mid- and late summer. It is caused by a pox virus and initially transmitted by the stable fly *Stomoxys calcitrans*, and is therefore again associated with the rainy season. The disease occurs anywhere in Southern Africa and is one of the most important erosive diseases in cattle. All age groups can be



Calf infected severely with lumpy skin disease.

affected, with young animals often exhibiting the most severe symptoms. It is characterized by high fever and the development of multiple firm nodules in the skin and the mucous membranes of the respiratory and digestive tract. Symptoms can vary from mild to severe. The most severe economic losses occur in intensive farming operations like dairies and feedlots, due to close contact between many animals. Although the virus affects all breeds of cattle, breeds with a thin skin, like Friesians, Holstein and Jerseys show more severe visible lesions. As far as is known, natural infection does not occur in wildlife, although the giraffe and the impala are very susceptible to experimental infection.

Economic Importance: With an outbreak up to 100% of cattle in a herd can be affected, but on average this figure varies from 1 - 20%. Although the mortality can be up to 40% in an affected herd, usually not more than 3% die of the disease. The disease is of great economic importance due to severe loss of condition of sick animals, decrease in milk production (sometimes milk production ceases altogether), decreased fertility in cows and bulls, abortions and permanent damage to the skin, which makes it unsuitable for leather production.

Transmission and Spread: Rapid spread of this disease in case of an outbreak is a very common occurrence. The initial transmission is by biting flies, but subsequently further spread of the disease in a herd is through direct contact between sick and susceptible animals, since the virus is present in large numbers in the saliva and skin lesions of sick animals. As a result, common water-, lick- and feed troughs play an important role in the spread of the disease, as does transport of sick animals. It can also be transmitted to suckling calves via infected milk.

Symptoms: The incubation period, the time from infection until the occurrence of the first symptoms is about 7 days. Symptoms during the initial phase include fever, listlessness, loss of appetite, mucopurulent discharge from the nose and salivation. The second phase (4 - 14 days later) is also characterized by fever, but in addition by the development of well defined, firm, raised skin nodules and excessive lacrimation due to infection of the conjunctiva of the eyes. Even the cornea of the eye can be affected leading to blindness. The skin nodules (5 - 10 mm across) can vary from a few to hundreds, covering the whole body and can include the skin, subcutaneous tissue and even muscle. Severely affected calves often die, lactating cows

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Arthropod Borne Diseases

Due to many varying environmental and climatic factors influencing the tick population, it is impossible to predict whether a stable or an unstable situation will prevail, and which calves may or may not have developed an immunity to Anaplasmosis. Therefore all calves should be vaccinated between 6 - 9 months of age, to protect them as they grow older.

Symptoms: Anaplasmosis has a long incubation period of 4 - 6 weeks. During the incubation period the organisms multiply in the blood so that many red blood cells are affected and will die by the time the symptoms start occurring. A high fever of 40 - 41.5 °C which can either be stable or fluctuate is commonly the earliest symptom. Other common symptoms include anaemia, yellow jaundice, listlessness, loss of appetite, rumen stasis (cessation of rumen function) and constipation. Cases have been reported where affected animals become very aggressive. This can be confused with rabies.

Anaplasmosis is easily confirmed by microscopic examination of a blood smear, which is one of the important applications of this useful diagnostic tool. Under the microscope the two organisms can be readily distinguished, because *Anaplasma marginale* is situated more towards the margin of the red blood cell, whereas *Anaplasma centrale* is more centrally situated on the cell, hence the names.

Treatment: Treatment of cattle for Anaplasmosis consists of specific treatment, supportive treatment and careful nursing. As far as the latter is concerned, sick animals should not be driven or transported,

protected against unfavourable weather conditions and provided with good food and sufficient water. Treatment should be associated with as little stress and force as possible for the animal and started as soon as possible, since animals can develop a severe anaemia, deteriorate rapidly and die.

Specific treatment consists of oxytetracycline injections, either short acting drugs at 10mg per kg body mass, daily for 4 - 6 days or a long acting type at 20mg per kg, repeated after 3 days. Blood smears must always be made before treating the animal with an oxytetracycline.

Supportive treatment in the form of multivitamins either by injection or in the drinking water, vitamin B12 injections and metabolic stimulant injections, should always be considered in addition to the specific treatment. In cases of rumen stasis and constipation a mixture of sugar, vinegar and Epsom salts, fresh rumen contents or a commercial rumen stimulant need to be administered.

Some animals may deteriorate initially, even if treated comprehensively, others may take a long time to recover fully. Even relapses can occur in treated animals. As a result of this affected animals should be monitored carefully for up to 6 weeks.

Prevention and Control: This is achieved by tick control and vaccination. If ticks are controlled very strictly in areas where Anaplasmosis has never occurred before, this should be sufficient to prevent disease outbreaks. In more endemic areas cattle should be vaccinated, in conjunction with low level tick control. Due to these major differences, consult your veterinarian about the best preventative program for your herd. Since *Anaplasma centrale* does cause disease and produces a strong immunity against *Anaplasma marginale*, (cross immunity) it is used for vaccine production. The vaccine in fact consists of blood infected with live *Anaplasma centrale* organisms. It has to be transported and stored on dry ice at - 70°C. After thawing it is injected intramuscularly at a dose of 1 ml per animal, regardless of size and age. Calves are vaccinated at the age of 3 - 9 months. Immunity develops within 2 months after vaccination and lasts for up to 4 years. A vaccine reaction can occur 4 - 6 weeks after vaccinated, characterized by high fever, listlessness and reduced appetite, constipation and even yellow jaundice. It is treated with an injection of a long acting oxytetracycline at a dose of 20mg/kg. If cows and heifers are to be vaccinated, it must be kept in mind that pregnant animals can abort as a result of the vaccine reaction.

ONTMOET AGRA SE DIREKSIE VIR 2008

Na afloop van die Algemene Jaarvergadering wat plaasgevind het op 29 November 2007, is die Direksie van Agra hersaamgestel.

Ryno van der Merwe is as voorsitter herkies. Met die uitrede van Johan Coetzee, is Ben Mouton verkies wat diens sal doen as onder-voorsitter.

Twee direkteure per streek word deur die lede verkies vir die drie verskillende streke naamlik Noord, Sentraal en Suid. Siggie Wilckens is herkies as direkteur wat saam met Ryno van der Merwe die sentraal streek sal verteenwoordig.

Peter Schonecke en Ben Mouton is herkies en sal die noorde streek verteenwoordig terwyl Leon van Wyk en Jan Visagie die suide sal verteenwoordig as direkteure.

Behalwe vir die direksie, vereis die Koöperasie Wet van 1996, 'n Toesighoudende Komitee vir die koöperasie, met een lid uit elk van die drie streke. Sieglinde Zensi en Sara Shikongo sal onderskeidelik vir die noorde en sentraal diens doen op die toesighoudende komitee met verteenwoordiging vir die suide wat egter vakant is.

Herdmaster/Breedplan Kursusse 2008:

11 Maart: Herdmaster Beginners: 08:30 - 15:00
NSV Raadsaal

12 Maart: Herdmaster Gevorderd: 08:30 - 15:00
NSV Raadsaal

12 Maart: Breedplan Beginners: 09:00 - 13:00
Agra Raadsaal

13 Maart: Herdmaster Kleinvee: 08:00 - 16:00
NSV Raadsaal

13 Maart: Breedplan Gevorderd: 09:00 - 13:00
Agra Raadsaal

*Koste beloop N\$ 150.00 per persoon per kursus.
Bring skootrekenaar/rekenaar met kragkabels.*

Navrae:

Namibiese Stoettelersvereniging

Tel: 061 - 235 168 Faks: 061 - 230 578

E-pos: nsba@iway.na