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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ATTENTION: The News Editor

Slaughter OX Competition Honours Quality Producers

Mr Heinz and Almut Gruhn of Otongovi Farming have been awarded with the overall first place in the Agra 2019 Slaughter Ox Competition at a ceremony held at the Agra/ Bank Windhoek Ring on the 2nd of August 2019.

This was the fourth Slaughter Ox Competition hosted by Agra Auctions since the competition's inception in 2016. The competition forms part of an initiative to provide ox producers with a platform to compete in an organised competition similar to the Agra Weaner Competition.

Reflecting on the competition, Herman Lintvelt, Agra Regional Manager: Central Auctions was pleasantly surprised with the outcome of the 2019 Slaughter Ox Competition. "Despite this year's drought, the Slaughter Ox Competition exceeded all expectation. Agra Auctions hosted five Slaughter Ox competitions where a total of 190 oxen were judged, compared to 155 oxen in 2018. This is a clear indication of the amount of resilience oxen producers possess to ensure that they continue to produce quality oxen, under these difficult climatic conditions", says Lintvelt.

The first competition was held at Aub on the 22nd of May, followed by Gobabis on the 11th of June, Windhoek on the 3rd of July, Nina on the 19th of July and concluded at Otavi on the 25th of July. The main sponsor for this year's competition was Old Mutual, and other sponsors included Feedmaster, MSD, Efekto and Brakwater Abattoir.

All sponsorships were used for rewarding various category winners at the awards ceremony.

To participate in the competition each producer must enter two animals to be judged on their hooves and carcass. For the hoof category, key aspects for judging comprise age, fatness, masculinity, temperament, as well as



good farming practices such as branding, dehorning, among others. These constitute 40% of the total points. On the carcass, the cattle will compete on the quality of meat, which constitutes 60% of the total points. All animals are slaughtered at the Brakwater Abattoir, which also supplies steak at all the competition points for a braai for participants and sponsors.

Judging was done by Theunis Johnston, Neels Dodds and Petrus Maritz, Head of Meatboard's Classification Services, Tiaan Steenkamp, Agra and John Pearson, Brakwater Abattoir.

Winners were:

Otavi:

1st Place Karl Heinz van Biljon (Nehlen Farming)

2nd Place P.Frenzel

3rd Place Karl Heinz van Biljon (Nehlen Farming)

Windhoek:

1st Place Heinz and Almut Gruhn (Otongovi Farming)

2nd Place C.J Steenkamp

3rd Place H.B Swart

Gobabis:

1st Place Bertus Calitz

2nd Place M.C Human Snr

3rd Place W.V.R Versfeld

Aub:

1st place T.A. Johnston

2nd Place Heinz and Almut Gruhn (Otongovi Farming)

3rd Place J.W Esterhuizen

Nina:

1st Place Phoenix Farming

2nd Place J.J. Human

3rd Place Phoenix Farming

Image Caption: CEO of Agra, Mr Arnold Klein (first row left) and Carel Jordaan, Agra Senior Manager: Auctions (first row right) with the 2019 Slaughter Ox Competition winners.

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