WOLBOER WE WOOL FARMER

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1 South African holds world wool clip record

Veteran sheep farmer Hilson Shuman of the farm Grey Craig near Queenstown delivered his 63rd wool clip to brokers Saunders, Bruce and Lapperson in Port Elizabeth in October 2015. Research shows this to be a world wool clip record.

He produced his 60th clip in 2012, making South African Merino history.

The Eastern Cape NWGA also recognised Mr Shuman's achievement in 2014 by presenting him with a Certificate of Distinction on the delivery of his 60th wool clip, his contribution to the wool industry over the years and his love of the Merino.

The NWGA joins all sectors of the South African wool industry in congratulating Mr Shuman on this unique achievement.



2 Bayer no longer supplies OBP products

After a long-standing relationship, the distribution agreement between Bayer South Africa (Pty) Ltd and Onderstepoort Biological Products SOC (Ltd) has come to an end. Consequently, as of 1 April 2016, Bayer South Africa (Pty) Ltd discontinued the distribution and marketing of all OBP products.

This was revealed by the Head of Animal Health at Bayer SA, Dr György Polgár, on 1 April 2016. He said Bayer would continue to concentrate on its core animal health business in South Arica by offering veterinarians and farmers innovative medicines and solutions that contribute to the quality of life, health and well-being of farm animals around the world.

As of April 2016, any questions relating to any of OBP's products should be put direct to the manufacturer.

Farmers will be able to order or purchase OBP vaccines from their local veterinarian.



3 OBP versprei produkte self

Onderstepoort Biologiese Produkte (OBP) het vanaf 1 April 'n nuwe direkte verspreidingstrategie. Verskaffers van OBP-produkte kan bestellings vanaf Maandae tot Vrydae regstreeks aan OBP rig. Geen aflewerings word op Vrydae of die dag voor 'n openbare vakansiedag gedoen nie.

NUWE KONTAKBESONDERHEDE:

Verkope en bemarking: ordersloc@obpvaccines.co.za / 012 522 1684. Bestuurder: Nasionale Verkope: Kenneth Malahlela: kennethm@obpvaccines.co.za / 082 706 8940.

Verkoopsagent: Aubrey Dladla: 074 461 6069.

Finansies/debiteure: Hannelie Wichrzycki: 012 522 1526 / debtors@obpvaccines.co.za.

4 Roadshows in communal areas

Communal wool farmers of the NWGA have indicated the need to learn more about the different role players in the South African wool industry and to discuss the functions and responsibilities of all the various stakeholders.

Invitations have been extended to the Wool Testing Bureau, Cape Wools SA, the Wool Trust, BKB, CMW and the South African Wool and Mohair Buyers' Association (Sawamba) to send representatives who will explain their structures during this five-day roadshow, which will be held from 20 to 24 June 2016.



5 Renowned speakers at 2016 National Congress

The annual National Congress will be held at the Pine Lodge Resort and Conference Centre in Port Elizabeth on 1 and 2 June 2016. The theme is "Reformation with a twist". The programme has been divided into sessions addressing advice on production in a new generation, predation management and member affairs.

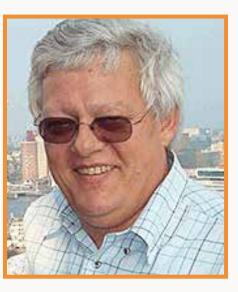
Cobus Oosthuizen, director, facilitator, trainer, researcher, and motivational speaker will be one of the guest speakers. Cobus also took part in the Kalahari Augrabies Extreme Marathon last year, putting wool to the test by running in a 100% Merino wool T-shirt for the seven days of the marathon.

One of South Africa's most renowned agricultural economics' researchers, Prof. Nick Vink of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Stellenbosch University, has also confirmed his availability as a guest speaker at the congress.



Cobus Oosthuizen

Prof. Nick Vink





NWGA reacts to MEC policy speech in the Eastern Cape



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The MEC for the Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform (DRDAR), Mlibo Qoboshiyane, delivered his policy speech on 6 April 2016 in Bhisho. Key strategic remarks in his policy speech concerned the commercialisation of agriculture; a review of the rural development strategy and the food security programme; additional hectares for Rural Enterprise Development (RED) Hubs; a proposal on the management of Agri-parks; prioritising the young to get Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD) farms; and other matters.

Leon de Beer, NWGA General Manager, attended the event and said that the NWGA sincerely appreciates the assistance given for drought relief, focusing on the availability of feed and fodder, as well as water supply. He went on to say: "Longer-term assistance like relief on interest rates on debts needs serious consideration in order to keep producers on their farms following the drought.

"The fact that the department will only consider providing agricultural land to

people committed to agriculture and farming, is key to the success of land reform and is strongly supported.

"It is unfortunate that 1,3% of the 2015/16 budget has not been spent! This equals a sum of more than R25 million that could have supported rural development in some or other way, which is now forever lost to the province.

"The Eastern Cape is a province where agriculture plays an important role in the economy. However, from the budget speech it seems that DRDAR has so many other responsibilities over and above agriculture (roads, sanitation, energy, mining, forestry, brick making, etc. were all mentioned), that there does not seem to be a lot of focused attention on agriculture. Instead, a Department of Agriculture should give more dedicated attention to agriculture.

"The MEC again emphasised continued development partnerships with commodity organisations such as the NWGA. The wool industry greatly appreciates and welcomes this. I trust that partnerships like these will materialise in practice to the extent that they will contribute greatly to the development of farmers. It is hoped that the department will engage commodity organisations more in order to plan and implement their undertaking.

"Finally, the developmental impact of initiatives such as RED Hubs and Agri-parks needs to be demonstrated. As far as generally extensive farming enterprises like wool sheep production are concerned, in particular, the value chain for wool is not necessarily manageable within the framework of an Agri-park, depending on the interpretation of such a concept."

7 Suksesvolle skeerkampioenskappe in Mpumalanga en Oos-Vrystaat

Skaapskêre is vroegoggend al begin slyp vir die jaarlikse skaapskeerkampioenskappe wat op Tweefontein, familieplaas van Jannie Jacobz van Calela Boerdery, in die Ermelo-distrik gehou is.

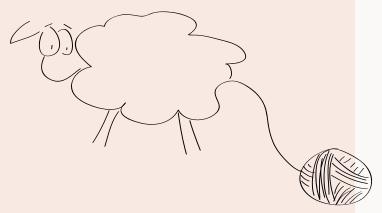
Beoordelaars, tydhouers, en klassers is vinnig deur Izak Klopper, NWKV Bestuurder: Skeerderopleiding op hul poste geplaas, gevolg deur 'n kort verduideliking oor die reëls, puntestelsel, wolhantering en tydhou. Altesaam 74 deelnemers van Carolina, Chrissiesmeer, Standerton, Frankfort, Ermelo en van sover as Bloemfontein, het aan die skeeruitdunne deelgeneem wat in die voormiddag saam met die wolhantering plaasgevind het.

Kategorieë soos Ope Masjienskeer, Intermediêre Masjienskeer, Ope Hand-



skeer en Junior Masjienskeer het gesorg vir strawwe kompetisie en het behoorlik die kaf van die koring geskei.

Die graad 10- en 11-Landbouwetenskapleerders van Hoërskool Ermelo het na die skeerkompetisie kom kyk en was verantwoordelik vir die braai van die worsrolle.



Navorsing vir beter begrip van Slenkdalkoors

Die Sentrum vir Opkomende en Soönotiese siektes van die Nasionale Instituut vir Oordraagbare Siektes en EcoHealth Alliansie beplan die eerste langtermynstudie om die Slenkdalkoors (SDK)-virus gelyktydig in mense, diere en wilde herkouers te ondersoek.

Die doel van die studie is om uit te vind

- hoe die Slenkdalkoorsvirus onder mense en diere versprei;
- hoe dit voortleef in die muskietvektor, in diere en/of mense tussen uitbrekings van die siekte;
- wat die uitwerking van klimaat, grond en plantegroei op die virus en die vektor kan wees; en
- hoe die huidige vlak van teenliggaampies in mense en diere, asook inentingstrategieë, die risiko en die grootte van 'n uitbreking in vee en mense kan beïnvloed.

Vir verdere navrae, skakel dr. Claudia Cordel, ExecuVet by 084 908 0407 of stuur 'n e-pos na **execuvet telkomsa.net**. Meer inligting is ook beskikbaar op die NWKV se webtuiste.

9 Pluimpie vir NWKVontledingsdienste

Tydens 'n *Landbouweekblad*-onderhoud met Nelius van der Westhuizen, verlede jaar se Voermol Skaapboer van die Jaar, het hy met Iof van die NWKV se ekonomiese ontledingsdiens gepraat.

Op 'n vraag watter raad hy aan medeboere kan gee, het Van der Westhuizen geantwoord dat dit noodsaaklik is dat elke veeboer moet weet wat sy netto boerderywins per hektaar en per kleinvee-eenheid is. Die NWKV bied 'n uitstekende ontledingsdiens aan boere waarvolgens hulle sterk en swak punte uitgelig word.

Gawie van Wyk, NWKV-produksie-adviseur op Carnarvon, is die koördineerder van hierdie diens in die Noord-Kaap. Boere wat ook wil deelneem, kan vir Gawie kontak by 083 270 3161 of per e-pos by **gvw@hantam.co.za**.

10 Droughts and livestock

Although good rains may have fallen in many areas towards the end of summer, this does not mean that the severe effects of the widespread drought this past summer are at an end. There is too little time before winter sets in for pasture growth and recovery to ensure adequate feed for grazing animals ahead of the next summer rains.

Farmers are hereby encouraged to take the right measures to protect and feed their core breeding livestock and to avoid having their animals slowly starve to death.

Prof. Gareth Bath, convenor of the Livestock Welfare Coordinating Committee (LWCC) provides information that will help farmers make the right decisions. http://www.nwga.co.za/i.../downloads/Drought_and_livestock.pdf

11 NWGA executive committee



The NWGA Executive Committee met mid-April to discuss and plan the objectives for the organisation. The NWGA was thrilled to welcome the newly elected provincial chairmen Herman Hugo of the Northern Cape and HB van der Walt of the Eastern Cape, as well as Dr George de Kock, the newly elected chairman for Cape Wools SA (CWSA) to the NWGA's inner circle of decision-makers.

Back row: Dr Louis du Pisani (NWGA national manager: production advisory services and development, HB van der Walt, Cobus de Jager (Free State chairman), Francois du Plessis (KwaZulu-Natal chairman), Machiel Odendaal (Mpumalanga chairman), Andile Ndzendze (Eastern Cape vice-chairman), Herman Hugo and Dr George de Kock.

Front row: Patti Myburgh (manager: finance and administration), Leon de Beer (general manager), Casper Labuschagne (national vice-chairman: commerical), Guillau du Toit (national chairman) and Sipiwo Makinana (national vice-chairman: communal).

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12 Young learners excited to learn about wool

NWGA staff members Bonita Francis and Nicole Booysen took up a request by Cotswold Primary School in Port Elizabeth to tell their Grade 2 learners about wool. This initiative by teacher Beverley Blignaut was sparked by the hard work put in for Wool Week 2016, resulting in wool products and fashion items being on display at the Walmer Park Shopping Centre at the end of March.

A very well behaved and disciplined group of 64 learners were excited to learn about all aspects of wool, the shearing process and the sheep dog. Per-



tinent questions were also posed during the question-and-answer session. The children wanted to know how sheep keep warm and cool down, when a farmer shears his sheep and why and what a sheep's coat is used for. They enquired as to whether shoes were made from wool, and were delighted when baby slippers were passed around to feel and see.

A Powerpoint presentation portraying images of sheep, the sheep farm, the processes of washing, spinning and baling, as well as a video clip showing blade-shearing champion Mayenzeke Shweni shearing sheep, took the learners on a visual tour to a sheep farm. They were then allowed to touch and feel the different types of wool on display; face cream containing lanolin was applied to their hands and faces and a little girl even posed with a glitzy woollen dress that was on display.

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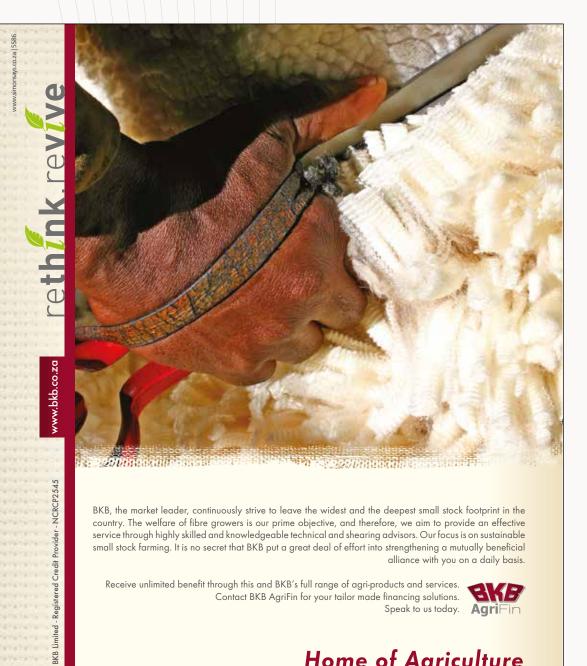
Merino behaal uitstekende resultate in die Kalahari

Die plaas Radyn in die Van Zylsrus-omgewing het vroeg in Maart gasheer gespeel vir 32 boere toe 'n wolskaapdag daar aangebied is. Die inligtingsdag het saamgeval met die skeertyd van eienaar Johan Delport en skeer- en wolklasseringsdemonstrasies is aangebied.



Jan Louis Venter, 'n NWKV-produksie-adviseur in die Vrystaat en Nico Bosch van BKB het praatjies gelewer oor skeerhuisbestuur en die vloei van wol in die skeerhuis. Verskillende rasse is aan die boere bekendgestel. Die Merino, SA Vleismerino, Dohne Merino en Merino Landskaap was van die wolrasse wat ten toon gestel is, met verskeie vleisskaaprasse wat ook baie belangstelling ontlok het.

Johan Delport behaal uitstekende resultate met sy Merino-kudde, al is hy een van enkele wolboere in die Kalahari. Hy is baie tevrede met die aanpassing van die Merino in Kalahari-toestande en produseer wol met 'n goeie treksterkte. Die boskomponent verskaf verder 'n proteïenryke dieet en hy glo dat dit die rede is waarom sy skape se wol so gesond groei. Elke ses maande skeer hy wol met 'n gemiddelde lengte van 60 mm, sy lampersentasie was die afgelope seisoen 120% en hy handhaaf 'n speenpersentasie van 115%. Sy wolinkomste beloop sowat R250/KVE per skeersel en hy het ook sy kudde vergroot en skeer nou sowat 2 800 skape.



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