WOLBOER
WOOL FARMER

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NWKV Nuusbrief 36 / NWGA Newsletter 36

BKB is die hoofborg van hierdie nuusbrief.

Foreword

The wool hub of Port Elizabeth was the centre of attention this past month with two students from Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute and a group of small farmers from the Overberg visiting. The group was introduced to the wool pipeline and the processes involved.

The various provincial offices also kicked off activities in their regions, with six successful regional meetings, in collaboration with the Red Meat Producers' Organisation (RPO), in KwaZulu-Natal. Members in the Eastern Cape are reminded of the combined biannual congress of the NWGA and RPO on 16 March in Queenstown.

The NWGA welcomes the three compulsory community service (CCS) veterinarians operating from the NWGA provincial offices in Bloemfontein, Middelburg and Queenstown, as well as Khanyiso Mzayifani, who has been granted a one-year internship by DAFF and is stationed at the King William's Town office.

Inform us about events in your area or if you want to receive the newsletter. Contact Karen Grobler at 082 774 7008 or send an email to **karen@agriconnect.co.za** or Bonita Francis at **nwga@nwga.co.za** or call 041 365 5030.

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Remember to visit our Facebook page.
The link is https://www.facebook.com/pages/NWGA/679678912058277

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1 Study tours benefit groups

The wool pipeline is complex, as it entails many processes involving the arrival of wool at a broker store or auction for selling, washing, combing, processing and testing. All of these processes have a story to tell and the people behind the story-telling are always willing and able to tell them when groups of farmers and students visit Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage to learn more about this wonderful fibre.

The NWGA would especially like to thank brokers BKB and CMW, Cape of Good Hope Wool Combers and the Wool Testing Bureau for their consistent efforts and the time they spend with groups imparting interesting facts about specific processes. Individuals and groups always depart with a sense of astonishment and a clear appreciation of the route the fibre takes from the sheep's back to the export of wool to China or Europe, especially Italy.

These study tours and visits to warehouses, factories, processing plants and laboratories, coupled with the enthusiastic cooperation of the role players, mean that the story of wool continues to inspire.

2 Get to know your CCS vets

The NWGA is fortunate to have the services of three compulsory community service (CCS) veterinarians operating from the NWGA provincial offices in Bloemfontein, Middelburg and Queenstown. CCS veterinarians will provide the services of state veterinarians in areas where there is generally a shortage of veterinarians. They will also add value to and support the development-related initiatives of the NWGA in the commercial and communal farming areas where they are stationed. Their tasks will include training farmers on animal health to improve their knowledge and skills, as well as to support them in improving programmes aimed at better reproduction in wool sheep flocks.

Bloemfontein – Rob Fourche

Rob was born in 1986 in Welkom and from a young age always wanted to be outdoors, fishing and wing shooting. His passion for working with animals continued to grow through the years. He matriculated from Welkom Gimnasium in 2004 and started his tertiary education at the University of Pretoria in 2006. He completed a BSc Animal Science in 2009 and went on to complete his honours degree in Animal Science in 2010. He was accepted to Onderstepoort the following year where he completed his BVSc in November 2015.

Grootfontein Agricultural College, Middelburg – Didi Roos

Didi Roos is originally from Riversdale in the Southern Cape and was raised on a smallholding with horses, chickens and hand-fed lambs. This triggered her love for animals and farm life. In 2010 she obtained a BSc Agric Animal Husbandry at the University of Stellenbosch and went on to qualify as a veterinarian in 2015.

Queenstown – Clara Blaeser

Clara Blaeser was raised in Mondeor, Johannesburg. She completed her veterinary science degree at the University of Pretoria in 2015 and moved to Queenstown in January this year to do her compulsory community service. At present she is working as a CCS veterinarian at the state veterinary clinic in Queenstown assisting the NWGA. Clara is interested in sustainable food production through efficient livestock farming. She enjoys dancing, rock climbing and talking to people (not necessarily simultaneously).

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Inskrywings/navrae aan:
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corne.nel@bkb.co.za
• Johan Botes (CMW B-Wes)
082 854 9272
tjbotes@cmw.co.za
* MERINO JEUGSKOU
* MERINO DINEE
Donderdagaand, 17 Maart om 19:00
Almal welkom, toegang slegs met bespreking by MERINO SA
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3 Goeie opkoms by KZN-streeksvergaderings

Die NWKV en RPO in KwaZulu-Natal het in Februarie ses streeksvergaderings oor vier dae in Luneberg, Dundee, Bergville, Weston, Underberg en Cedarville gehou. Die totale bywoning van 230 boere is hoër as in vorige jare en NWKV- en RPO-sake is bespreek.

Guillau du Toit het die streeksvergaderings vir die eerste keer in sy hoedanigheid as nasionale voorsitter van die NWKV bygewoon, en was verras met die goeie opkoms van boere uit die skaapgebiede, veral as in aanmerking geneem word dat skaap en wol nie die hoofinkomste in hierdie provinsie is nie .

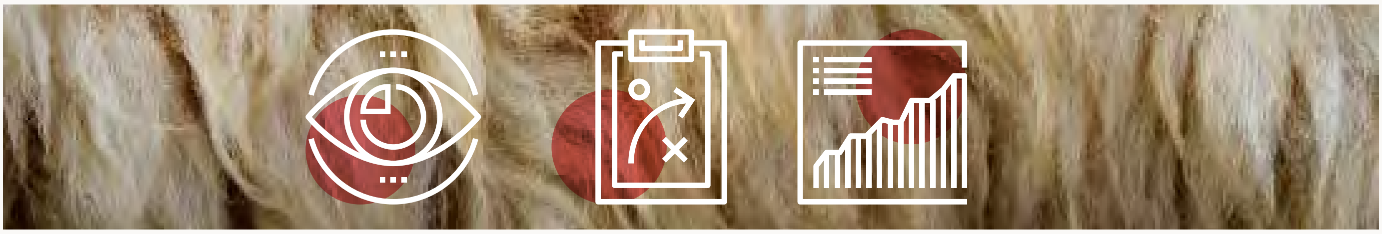
Hy het gehoor dat goeie reën die afgelope maand deur die hele gebied geval het, maar omdat dit te laat gekom het, is daar orals kommer dat te min reserwes vir die winter geproduseer gaan word. Die waterstand van damme in die streek bly steeds laag. Grondkwessies en veiligheid hou boere onder druk en veediefstal bly 'n groot uitdaging. Boere en veral veeartse is ontevrede met die stand van sake by Onderstepoort Biologiese Produkte (OBP) vanweë tekorte aan entstowwe by beeste en swak uitvoering van bestellings.

Uniek aan die Luneburg-distrik is die Duitse gemeenskap wat al vir ses geslagte daar woon. Twee sendelinge vanaf die Lutherse kerk in Duitsland het hulle daar kom vestig. Die spreektaal is steeds Duits en 'n eie staatskool is opgerig, waar verpligte Duits in die eerste vier jaar gepraat word.

4 Rift Valley fever awareness

Onderstepoort Biological Products (OBP) is embarking on a Rift Valley Fever Vaccination Awareness Campaign and would like to inform farmers that they have enough stock of RVF vaccines. OBP encourages farmers to continue with the procedure of vaccination. Should anybody experience problems with the availability of vaccines, they should contact the business development officer, Dr Jacob Modumo, directly at OBP on 012 522 1518 / 082 5741115.

5 Kleinboere soek planne vir vooruitgang



Kleinboere van die Overberg en Sentraal Karoo het die wolbedryf vroeër die maand besoek. Veertien boere vanuit die distrikte Barrydale, Moorreesburg, Piketberg, Darling, Elim, Caledon, Bredasdorp, Napier, Gouda en Beaufort-Wes het die middelpunt van die wolbedryf in Port Elizabeth besoek. Die tweedagtoer het afgeskop met 'n besoek aan Cape of Good Hope Wool Combers, 'n wolwassery en verwerkingsaanleg in Uitenhage, waarna die groep deur die wolpakhuis van BKB geneem is. Die volgende dag is afgestaan aan die Woltoetsburo, die geakkrediteerde toetshuis verantwoordelik vir die onafhank-like, objektiewe meting en toetsing van wol- en bokhaarmonsters aan die handel. Vandaar het hulle Cape Mohair en Wool (CMW) besoek vir 'n demonstrasie van 'n hoëdigtheidspers, waar drie bale wol in een gepers word. Die toer is afgesluit by die Coega Development Corporation.

'n Verteenwoordiger van die nasionale departement, Leonard Arendse van DAFF en provinsiale amptenare Frank Bock en Vianca Erasmus het Jannie Fourie, NWKV-produksie-adviseur, vergesel om eerstehands kennis op te doen van die uitdagings wat gevestigde, ontwikkelende boere in die gesig staar.

Die boere het gesê "hulle is moeg van bakhand staan" en is op soek na geleenthede waar besighede oop is vir moontlike samewerking en groei. Die stelsels wat ondersoek word, moet anders wees as dié wat vir die kommersiële boer beskikbaar is. Dit alleenlik kan vooruitgang beteken, en nie teen die huidige slakkepas nie.

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6 Strewe na volhoubare vesel- en vleisproduksie

Die gesamentlike tweejaarlikse kongres van wol- en vleisprodusente in die Oos-Kaap vind op 16 Maart 2016 plaas by Aloe Grove Gasteplaas net buite Queenstown. "Volhoubare vleis- en veselproduksie in die Oos-Kaap" is die tema van die kongres en Salam Abram, voormalige ANC-parlementslid, is die gasspreker. NWKV-voorsitter Casper Labuschagne en Francois du Toit, RPO-voorsitter, gaan onderskeidelik hul voorsittersverslae en finansiële verslae lewer. Andile Ndzendze en Kirmish Dyokolwana gaan terugvoering lewer oor aksies in die kommunale bedryf. Hollard Versekering gaan 'n aanbieding lewer oor die nuwe katastrofedekking vir skape wat hulle goedkoper aan NWKV-lede gaan bied. Die dekking sluit onder meer die verlies van wolskape weens brande, storms, vloede, weerlig, hael, sneeu en verkluiming in.

7 Internship benefits both

Khanyiso Mzayifani (23) has been granted a one-year internship by DAFF to learn more about the wool sheep industry. He started at the King William's Town office in February 2016 and is being mentored by NWGA senior production adviser Zithulele Mbatsha.

Born and raised in Dimbaza, King William's Town, Khanyiso matriculated at the Archie Velile Senior Secondary School and continued his studies at Grootfontein Agricultural College. In 2013 he was elected as the Junior Dux Student and in his final year excelled overall in most of his subjects. He obtained a 100% pass rate in Agricultural Management IIIB. He also obtained his springbok head qualification in 2014.

During his internship he will be involved in all aspects of sheep farming and gain practical experience in the physical handling of sheep and tattooing. His administrative duties will include a wide spectrum of activities, including organising information days, regional congresses, attending meetings and taking minutes, etc.

The NWGA welcomes Khanyiso to the circle of wool growers and personnel and we trust that he will develop his skills and build relationships that will last a lifetime.

8 Elsenburg-studente besoek Port Elizabeth

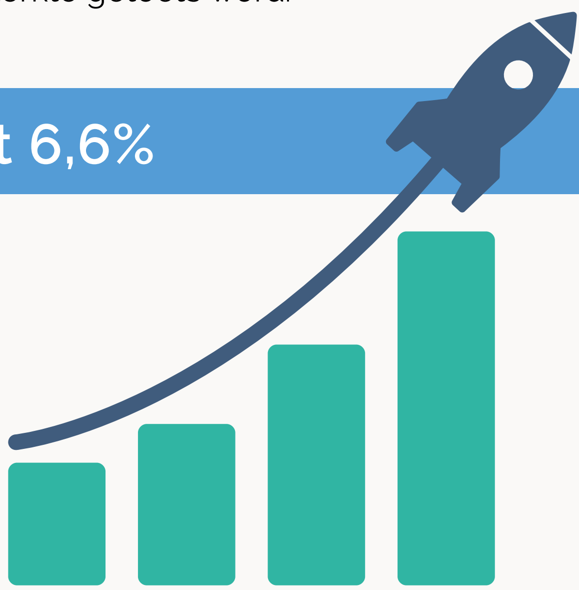
Die Wes-Kaapse NWKV het twee studente van Elsenburg wat in hul tweedejaar toppres-tasies behaal het, beloon met 'n toer na Port Elizabeth en omgewing om die wolketting te bestudeer.

Hulle het presteer in 'n tweedejaarsvak wat handel oor teling en praktiese areas wat die Suid-Afrikaanse Vleismerino-kursus, die Merino-kursus en Merino-prakties insluit. Stéffan Coet-zee, uit die Calvinia-distrik en Su-Maré McClune, 'n stadsmeisie van Tokai in Kaapstad, is deur Gawie Carstens, bestuurslid van NWKV Wes-Kaap vergesel. Gawie boer in Porterville en dit was sy eerste besoek aan Port Elizabeth. Dit was die vierde jaar wat die Wes-Kaapse NWKV in die jeug belê het. Soos Stéffan tereg opgemerk het, die vierde keer waar nuwe persepsies van die wolbedryf geskep is.

Die tweedaagse toer het afgeskop met 'n besoek aan die NWKV-hoofkantoor waar die stu-dente kennis gemaak het met die Fibrelux-mikronmeter. Die volgende dag het hulle 'n wol-pakhuis, wolveiling, 'n wolwassery en die Woltoetsburo besoek.

By die wolpakhuis het hulle onder meer gesien hoe wol hersorteer word en hoe die metaal-verklikker werk om metaalvoorwerpe in bale op te spoor. By die Woltoetsburo kon hulle sien hoe daar vir skoonopbrengs, asook vir lengte en sterkte getoets word.

9 Minimumloon styg met 6,6%



Die minimumloon vir plaaswerkers styg van 1 Maart af met 6,6% tot R128,26 per dag vir 'n werksdag van nege uur. Verlede jaar se verho-ging van 7,7% het op R120,32 te staan gekom.

Dit beteken dat die maandelikse minimum loon van R2 606,78 tot R2 778,83 verhoog; die weeklikse loon vanaf R601,61 tot R641,32 en die uurlikse loon vanaf R13,37 tot R14,25.

Agri SA verwelkom die minister se aankondiging. Hulle erken dit is belangrik dat werkerslone tred hou met stygende voedselpryse en lewenskoste, maar besef ook dat daar weens die droogte wel boere sal wees wat nie die styging in lone kan bekostig nie. Hulle vra dat so-danige boere, ná konsultasie met hul werkers of die vakbond, aansoek doen vir 'n artikel-50 variasie eerder as om hul werkers af te lê.

10 Al ’n brandsiek jakkals gesien?

Dit is algemeen bekend dat brandsiekte onder diere soos wildsbokke en vee voorkom. In die wolbedryf is brandsiekte ‘n ernstige en aanmeldbare siekte waarvoor boere op die uitkyk moet wees en skape betyds moet behandel om ernstige ekonomiese skade te voorkom. Dit is egter grootliks onbekend of roofdiere ook brandsiekte kan opdoen. Nietemin is daar al in die Karoo en Limpopo rooijakkalse met brandsiekte waargeneem.

Dr Gerhard Verdoorn, roofdierspesialis, verneem van produsente of hulle wel al ooit brandsiekte onder rooijakkalse waargeneem het en, indien wel, vra hy hulle om vir hom ‘n kort boodskap daaroor aan te stuur. Brandsiekte is dalk een van die natuur se meganismes om die rooijakkalsbevolking ‘n effense knou te gee. Hy sal egter wil vasstel hoe wyd verspreid dit voorkom.

Stuur asb enige waarnemings of inligting aan dr Gerhard Verdoorn by **nesher@tiscali.co.za** of skakel 082 446 8946 vir verdere navrae.

11 Nuwe Facebook-bladsy vir Vrystaatse NWKV

Die Vrystaat se provinsiale gebiedstak van die NWKV het nou hul eie Facebookbladsy. Raak deel van die Vrystaat-gemeenskap en hou tred met aksies wat vir jou as boer tot voordeel strek.

https://www.facebook.com/NWKV-Vrystaat-1134750173202916/.

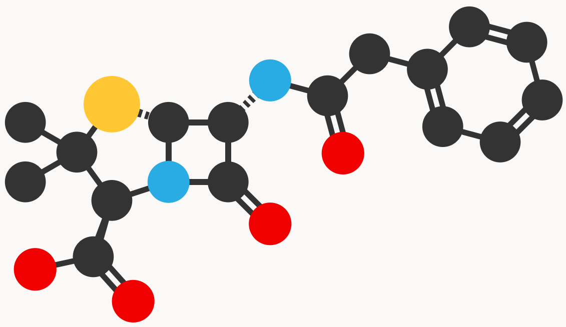
12 SKA-probleme in die Noord-Kaap

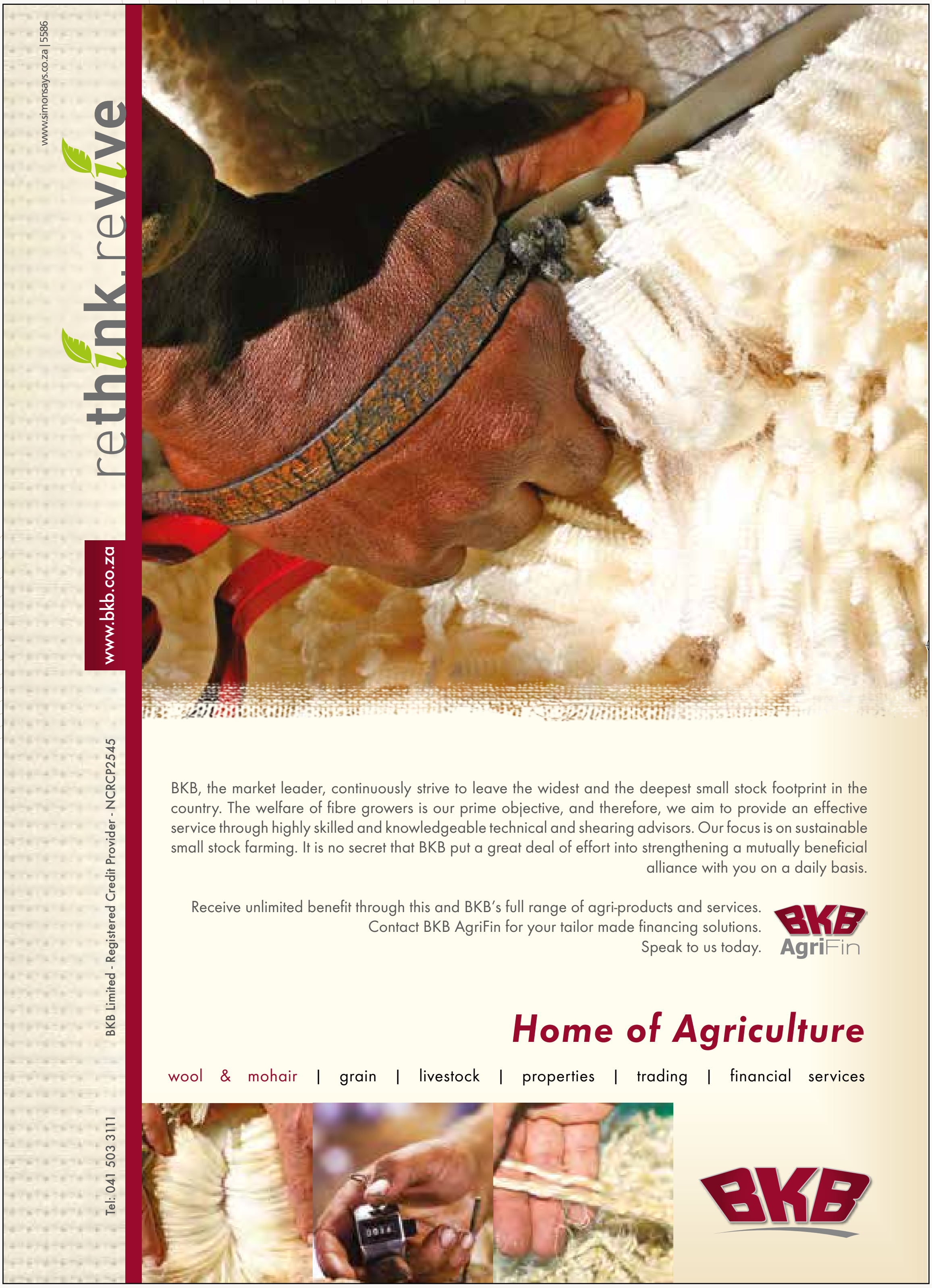
Die SKA (*square kilometre array*) in die Noord-Kaap omsluit 'n gebied van 118 000 ha. Die aankoop van plase moet teen Desember 2017 afgehandel wees en boere moet teen dan hul grond verlaat het. Hoe verloop die onderhandelings tans en wat moet nog in die oorblywende maande gebeur? Watter kopseer hou ongediertes in vir boere wat agterbly en aan die SKA grens? Dr Chris Viljoen van RSG Elsenburgforum het vroeër vandeesmaand gesels met Fanie Dippenaar van Carnarvon, vise-voorsitter van die Noord-Kaapse NWKV. Luister hier. **http://www.elsenburg.com/radioelsenburg/2016/F160123.mp3**

13 Resistance to antimicrobial drugs

Two undergraduate students at Onderstepoort, Hester and Sabina de Vries, have compiled an electronic questionnaire dealing with resistance to antimicrobial drugs (AMR) as part of a small research project supervised by Prof Moritz van Vuuren. The questionnaire is not a knowledge test but focuses on awareness and attitude towards AMR. This is a cordial request to farmers to support their research and complete the questionnaire anonymously by clicking on the following link:

http://www.thesistools.com/web/?id=493059

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