

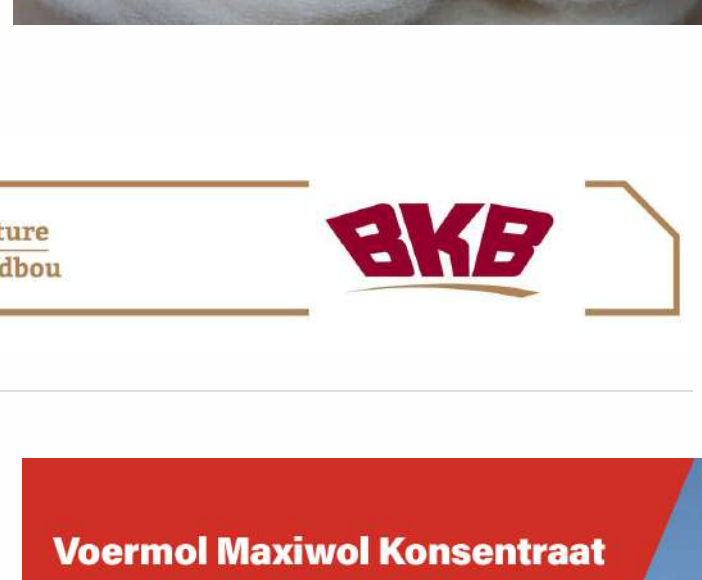
### Protect nature from fast fashion!

The European Commission is shaping new textile sustainability policies – but natural fibres risk being left behind. If these policies don't reflect the true environmental benefits of natural fibres, they could mislead consumers and threaten the livelihoods of farming communities worldwide.

The "Make the Label Count" campaign is calling for:

- Fair recognition of natural fibres in sustainability policies.
- Science-based environmental criteria to prevent greenwashing.
- A responsible fashion model that prioritises biodegradable, renewable, and recyclable fibres

Help ensure a fair future for natural fibres. Sign the petition today: <https://www.makethelabelcount.org/petition>



The Trusted Home of Agriculture  
Die Betroubare Tuiste van Landbou



### Nuutverkose Oos-Kaap NWKV-voorsitter: Wie is Frikkie Wentzel?

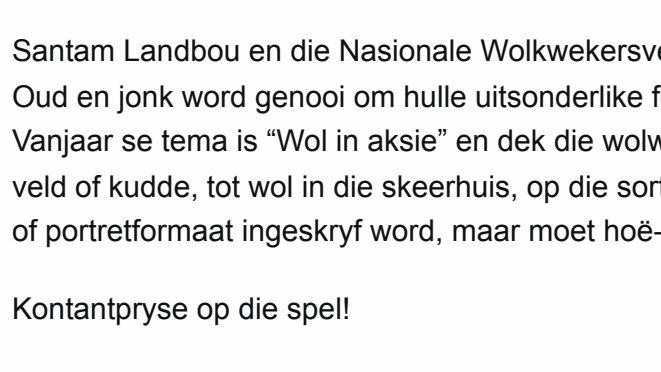
Frikkie Wentzel het tydens die Oos-Kaapse Nasionale Wolkwekersvereniging (NWKV Oos-Kaap) se algemene jaarvergadering in Cradock die voorsittersleuels by Niel du Preez oorgeneem. *Veeplaas* het met hom gesels om meer oor die produsent agter die skerms uit te vind.

LEES MEER

### NWGA collaboration with the Western Cape Department of Agriculture

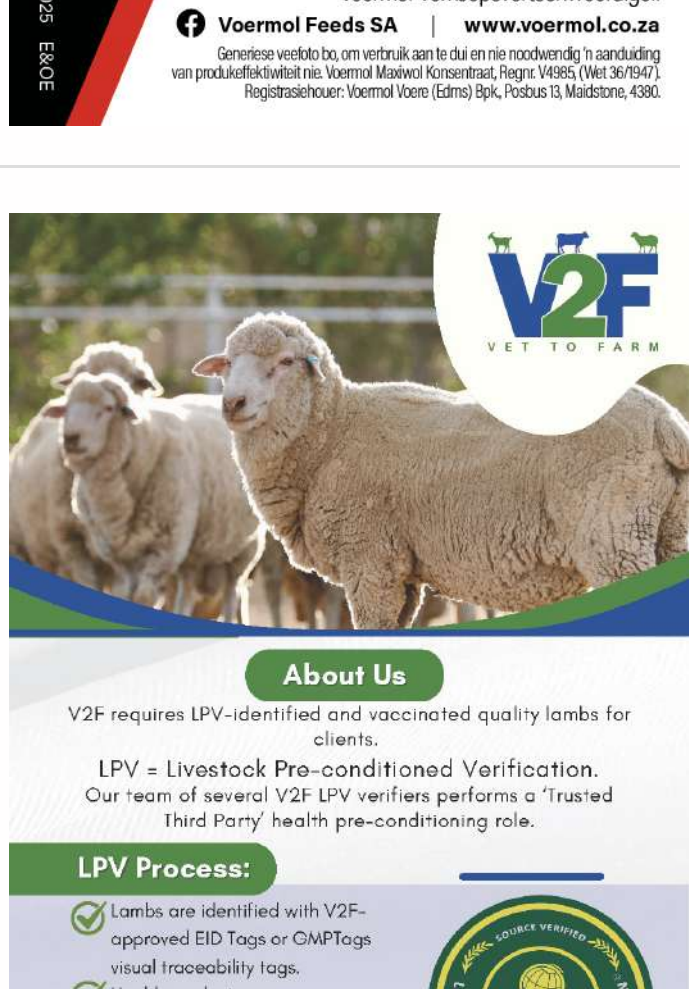
NWGA general manager, Dan Kriek, and Western Cape production advisor, Annie Fourie, visited the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, hosted by the head of department, Dr Mogaie Sebopetsa, and Jerry Arias, acting chief director: Agricultural producer support and development.

The courtesy visit was to strengthen the levels of collaboration between the NWGA and Western Cape Department of Agriculture. Through the submission of a technical intervention plan for emerging commercial farmers to Dr Sebopetsa, the NWGA is hopeful that this plan will form the basis of meaningful collaboration in the future.



### Voermol Maxiwool Konsentraat

**Uitmuntende Prestasie**  
Voermol Maxiwool Konsentraat (V4685) is 'n hoë gehalte konsentraat vir die voeding van lëlike vir skaap en bokke.



Wit verdon (highly) kortke (pu nasie) (shortly) verkort (shortly) verkort.

Voermol Feeds SA | [www.voermol.co.za](http://www.voermol.co.za)

Voermol Feeds SA | [www.voermol.co.za](http://www.voermol.co.za)

### Meer oor die 2025 Santam Landbou/NWVK-fotokompetisie in samewerking met Plaas Media

Santam Landbou en die Nasionale Wolkwekersvereniging bied met trots sy 2025-fotokompetisie aan. Oud en jonk word genooi om hulle uitsonderlike foto's in te skryf en lekker kontantpryse los te slaan. Vanjaar se tema is "Wol in aksie" en dek die wolwaardeketting in al sy stadiums – van wolskape in die veld of kudde, tot wol in die skeerhuis, op die sorteertafel, of wol aan die baai! Foto's kan in landskap- of portretformaat ingeskryf word, maar moet hoë-resolusie (300 dpi) en groter as 1MB wees.

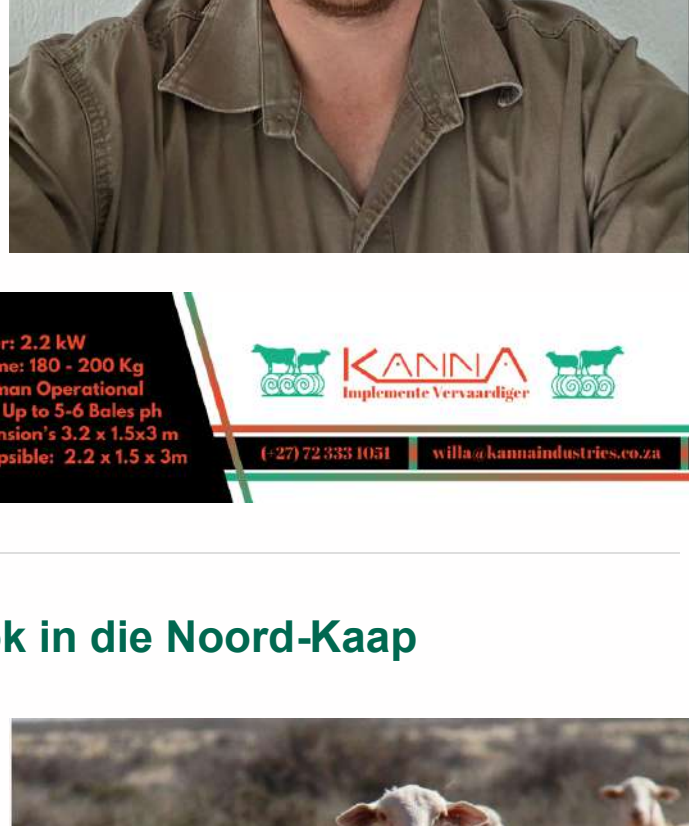
Kontantpryse op die spel!

- Eerste prys – R12 500 en die voorblad van *Veeplaas*.
- Tweede prys – R6 500.
- Derde prys – R3 500.
- 'Wild card' (borg se keuse) – R2 500.

Tema: **"Wol in Aksie"**  
Dek die wolwaardeketting in al sy stadiums

### Meet Eben van Wyk – NWGA production advisor in the Free State

Eben van Wyk is a newly-appointed NWGA production advisor in the Free State. Van Wyk holds a BSc degree in Animal science and Economics, which he obtained from the University of the Free State. Van Wyk is taking over the reins from Jan Louis Venter who retired at the end of March this year. We wish Eben the best of luck on his journey with the NWGA family!



**KANNA AUTO Wool Press**  
Power: 2.2 kW  
Volume: 80 - 200 kg  
Shear: 1000 mm  
Pressing: 2.2 x 1.5 x 2 m  
Cutting: 2.2 x 1.5 m

### Bloutong maak amok in die Noord-Kaap

Bloutong, veral onder Merino's en ander skape van Europese herkoms, is vanjaar 'n enorme probleem in die Noord-Kaap. In gebiede langs die Oranjeriver, soos Prieska, Douglas, Luckhoff, en Uppington het hiers groot getalle diere verloor. Sommige boere het meer as 100 skape verloor.



LEES MEER

Trotse borg van die NWKV | Proud sponsor of the NWGA

### INTERNASIONALE NUUS / INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### The importance of testing in the wool supply chain

Testing is an indispensable part of the wool industry. Among other things, wool testing protocols provide a way to ensure that wool meets quality standards and also lays down clear specifications regarding the amount and quality of fibre being delivered. Here, the International Wool Textile Organisation (IWTO) explains the process of testing in the wool supply chain.

READ MORE



#### QUALITY SHEEPS PERFORMANCE FOR IMPROVED LAMBING AND SHEEP PERFORMANCE

- High quality ripples provide optimum quality with production and flow.
- Prevent the production of wooly culchams.
- Decreased incidence of dissections and disarranged lambs.
- Does have a lower weight loss which increases conception and lambing %.
- Superior lamb growth and weaning weights.
- Superior wool follicle development in lambs to ensure a lifetime of quality wool production.
- Optimal development of lamb's reproduction potential.
- Ensure optimum lambs per ewe.
- Provide the user with the necessary minerals, trace elements and vitamins.

#### Foot-and-mouth disease in Europe – UK Trade Impact summary

The UK has imposed significant import restrictions on various animal products from Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, and parts of Germany due to foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) concerns. Restricted imports include live ruminants and pigs, their germplasm, fresh/frozen meat, untreated meat products, and certain milk and animal by-products



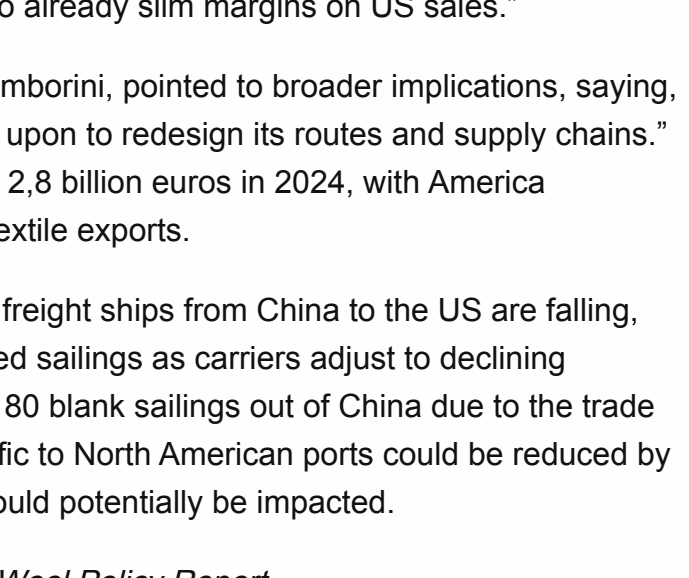
While the UK follows automatic regionalisation within the EU (allowing imports from non-outbreak zones), Germany's complete loss of FMD-free status has resulted in widespread suspension of animal product imports from all German territories. Specific heat treatments (D1) are required for certain meat products to reduce risk, and personal imports of meat and dairy products face restrictions.

Since 7 March 2025, all imports of live ungulates and FMD-susceptible species from Hungary have been temporarily suspended. Similar restrictions for Slovakia are under review, while Austria has implemented additional pre-notification and border control measures to mitigate biosecurity risks.

Source: *International Wool Textile Organisation Wool Policy Report*

#### Focus on tariff impacts: New challenges for the wool and textile industry

Recent US tariff impositions are set to create significant ripple effects throughout the textile supply chain, with wool products facing particular challenges. According to an analysis from Yale University's Budget Lab, wool and silk products imported into the US will see price increases of approximately 10.9% due to new tariffs.



The broader US apparel sector faces even steeper increases, with apparel (clothing and shoes) expected to see prices rise by 16.9% and leather products (gloves and handbags) by 18.3%. Industry experts note these price adjustments may take up to five years to fully materialise.

In the case of wool sweaters, the impact is compounded by multiple layers of tariffs. The *New York Times* reported that wool sweaters begin with a category-specific US tariff of 16% (this applies regardless of country of origin). The \$170 million worth of wool sweaters imported into the United States from China last year faced a tariff rate of roughly 24%, considered relatively high at the time.

Following recent tariff rounds – including February measures targeting China overentanyl concerns and the latest 'reciprocal' round – the import tax for sweaters entering the US will significantly jump.

American wool growers are experiencing significant market challenges as international trade tensions intensify. According to the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI), approximately 50 to 60% of American wool is typically exported, with China serving as the primary buyer and processor. However, recent tariff escalations have severely disrupted this supply chain.

The current situation has created a bottleneck in the market, with pounds of American wool sitting unsold. Under recent trade policies, Americans now face a 145% tax rate on Chinese imports, while China has responded by hitting levies on US goods to 125%

Peter Orwick, executive director of ASI, which represents more than 100 000 sheep producers across the US, reports that previously arranged sales have stalled. "We had sales that were set up this spring, but if you didn't have the ships on the water, they were going to face the retaliatory tariffs – so I know we've had some containers that are not moving."

The American wool industry, particularly concentrated in California and Mountain West states, has already been under economic pressure for some time. Tariffs initially imposed in 2018 dealt an early blow, and the situation worsened during the pandemic when remote work reduced demand for formal, wool-based apparel.

In response to these challenges, US producers are actively seeking alternative buyers in markets such as Italy and Eastern Europe. Meanwhile, US president Trump has indicated that while tariffs on China will "come down significantly," they "won't be zero," suggesting uncertain prospects for immediate market normalisation.

While US tariffs remain in flux, US apparel and textile executives were bracing for price increases, and leaders across the textile and fashion sector have voiced concerns about disruptions throughout the supply chain. These concerns reflect widespread anxiety about market stability and international trade relationships.

In *Women's Wear Daily (WWD)*, European apparel and textile organisation Euratex's director general, Dirk Vanlyghem, characterised the decision as "going back in time," warning it "will lead to a lose-lose relationship within the global textile industry." He emphasised that adding a 20% duty will hamper the EU-US trade relationship, which currently exceeds 9 billion euros.

For British manufacturers, the impact could be particularly severe. As Caroline Rush, CEO of the British Fashion Council noted, "The new tariffs the US has applied on goods from the UK will be of great concern to British fashion brands, which will have to make the problematic compromise between raising prices or eating into already slim margins on US sales."

In Italy, Confindustria Moda president, Sergio Tamborini, pointed to broader implications, saying, "Fashion, in its global dimension, is being called upon to redesign its routes and supply chains." Italian textile-clothing exports to the US reached 2.8 billion euros in 2024, with America representing the third-largest market for Italian textile exports.

As a result of these trade tensions, bookings on freight ships from China to the US are falling, with US importers seeing an increase in cancelled sailings as carriers adjust to declining demand. Freight company HLS Group recorded 80 blank sailings out of China due to the trade war impacting transpacific routes. Container traffic to North American ports could be reduced by 640 000 to 800 000 TEUs. US exports to Asia could potentially be impacted.

Source: *International Wool Textile Organisation Wool Policy Report*

### TEGNIËSE ARTIKELS / TECHNICAL ARTICLES

#### Strategic and tactical treatment of liver fluke

The spread and incidence of liver fluke are farm and climate dependent. Its incidence on infected farms can increase a hundredfold in wet years. Cattle are more resistant than sheep, but in general animals are not highly resistant to this parasite.

READ MORE

**COMBI-DOSE 3**  
WOLWEGENDE  
WOLWEGENDE  
WOLWEGENDE

#### Tipering en gehalte van wol

Die wyse waarop skape geskeer word, en hoe die skeersel hanteer en geklasseer word, bepaal tot 'n groot mate die inkomste wat 'n produsent uit 'n goeie wolkersel genereer. Baie wolprodusente sal sê dat skeer tyd op die plaas 'n genootlike, maar ook spanningsvolle tydperk is. Dit is omdat dié verskillende dele van 'n skaap se wol in hierdie tydperk gesorteer en korrek geklasseer moet word.

LEES MEER

**ONTSLUIT jou wolwaiteit**  
ONTSLUIT jou wolwaiteit

#### General preparations for the shearing season

One of the most important factors to consider when a producer starts preparing for the shearing season, is the welfare of both the sheep and the shearers. Izak Kloppey is in charge of shearer training at the National Woolgrowers' Association of South Africa (NWGA) and in this article he shares a few of the most important measures that apply when preparing shearing facilities on the farm.



READ MORE

LEES DIE NUUTSTE UITGAWE VAN VEEPLAAS HIER: **Veeplaas** Die wêreld van die boer

READ THE LATEST ISSUE OF STOCKFARM HERE: **STOCKFARM** (Cared for the entire livestock producer)

**Veeplaas**  
FOCUS OP DIE SAARBOER  
Bokke, Koeie, Veevoeding  
Geleentheid in die rooivleedekketting

**STOCKFARM**  
Ngunis and wheat: A winning combination  
Indigenous goat project on the winning path  
High-production winter pastures for dairy systems

### KALENDER / CALENDAR

Kom ons kyk waarmee ons produksie-adviseurs in Mei gaan besig wees

DATUM	GELEENTHEID	PRODUK ADVISEUR
7 Mei 2025	Oos-Kaap – Oos-Kaap Prestasieforumvergadering	Juan Venter, Oos-Kaap produksie-adviseur (078 693 1953)
8 Mei 2025	Wes-Kaap – Ceres Sekondêre Skool – Skeersedemonstrasie	Jannie Fourie, Wes-Kaap produksie-adviseur (083 564 1105)
13-16 Mei 2025	NAMPO Oesdag, Bothaville	
13 Mei 2025	Wes-Kaap – Ceres Sekondêre Skool – Reprodusiekursus	Jannie Fourie, Wes-Kaap produksie-adviseur (083 564 1105)
19-21 Mei 2025	KwaZulu-Natal – Cedara wool handling course	Annelle Smit van Niekerk, Moutielanga produksie-adviseur (082 928 3592)
19-23 Mei 2025	Noord-Kaap – Bo-Karoo-opleiding – studente-opleiding in stukkieklas, veehantering, en oesdagsoordring	Dawie Botha, Noord-Kaap produksie-adviseur (053 679 6815)
21 Mei 2025	Oos-Kaap – Pleanston – Kudekompetisie	Juan Venter, Oos-Kaap produksie-adviseur (078 693 1953)
21 Mei 2025	Wes-Kaap – Ceres Sekondêre Skool – Reprodusiekursus – Modules 5,6 & 7	Jannie Fourie, Wes-Kaap produksie-adviseur (083 564 1105)
28 Mei 2025	Vrystaat – Eeram – Oos-Vrystaat NWKV-streekvergadering	Annelle Smit van Niekerk, Moutielanga produksie-adviseur (082 928 3592)
29 Mei 2025	Wes-Kaap – Mosselbaai Kude-evaluasiedag	Jannie Fourie, Wes-Kaap produksie-adviseur (083 564 1105)

To stay updated with the latest agricultural news, join the **Plaas Media** WhatsApp channel for daily articles and interviews.

