



Livestock and Meat Advisory Council

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Industry Update for week ending 10th November 2017

OVERVIEW

In response to Statutory Instrument (SI) 129 of 2017, a stakeholder meeting was convened which was attended by the chairpersons and directors of the following organisations: Meat Processors Association of Zimbabwe, Stockfeed Manufacturers Association of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe Poultry Association, Zimbabwe Association of Dairy Farmers, Zimbabwe Farmers Union, Zimbabwe Commercial Farmers Union, Commercial Farmers Union, Zimbabwe Dairy Industry Trust, Zimbabwe Association of Abattoirs and the Livestock and Meat Advisory Council.

Of serious concern to the industry is the increased regulatory costs arising from the SI which comes at a time when the beef and poultry sectors are faced by outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease and Avian Influenza, respectively. The SI is also at variance with the excellent private-public sector collaborations currently being fostered within the industry to boost productivity.

A position paper was submitted to the Permanent Secretaries in the Ministries of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development, Finance and Economic Development and Industry and Commerce.

The matter was addressed by Agricultural Marketing Authority (AMA) and a second stakeholder meeting was convened on Tuesday 7th November. Regrettably, AMA did not attend the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances and the consortium of organisations submitted further correspondence to the Ministries. Their response is awaited.

Pig Producers Association of Zimbabwe

At the recent Open meeting of the Association, pig producers were advised to be on high alert following the spread of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) to Masvingo. FMD affects pigs more severely than other cloven hoofed animals, and can cause widespread mortalities in piggeries. Strict biosecurity should be maintained as a preventive measure.

Outreach to small-scale pig producers continues through the pilot project in Goromonzi rolled out by the Association in partnership with the Pig Industry Board (PIB). Enthusiasm to grow national pig production is high among the participating small-scale producers in the pilot project and PPAZ is exploring the SMS platform and educational videos as tools to support on the ground training from PIB.

Meat Processors Association of Zimbabwe

At the meeting held on 3rd November, it was noted that challenges in procuring the required raw materials and escalating production costs are impacting on the production of processed meats, with some processors now operating at only 30% of capacity.

Production costs have escalated with the threefold increase in the international price of sausage casings and increased packaging costs, following the banning of kaylite packaging. Together with the duty of 40% on imported mechanically deboned meat, the base ingredient in processed meat which is not manufactured anywhere in Africa, this is driving up the cost of processed meat and the ability of the industry to supply the mass market with affordable meat products.

It was noted that South Africa can land processed meat products in Zimbabwe for less than what it is currently costing the local meat processor to procure all the raw ingredients for manufacture.

The Association is drawing up a long-term vision for Zimbabwe's meat processing industry which is an integral part of the whole meat sector, utilising meat trimmings and offals. This vision looks at the potential capacity of the meat processing industry to integrate smallholder outgrowers into the value chain, and ultimately to build export capacity.

Schedule of forthcoming meetings and events: November

- Friday 17 Nov** Annual General Meeting of the Stockfeed Manufacturers Association
 Council Meeting of the Stockfeed Manufacturers Association
- Wednesday 29 Nov** Open Meeting of the Pig Producers Association

Enclosures

- Overview on the Agricultural Model Inter-comparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP) and Integrating Crops and Livestock for Improved Food Security and Livelihoods in rural Zimbabwe (ZIMClifs, 2013-2017) projects;
- Department of Livestock and Veterinary Services weekly report – week ending 03 November 2017.