



Livestock & Meat Advisory Council

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Industry Update for week ending 1st December 2017

OVERVIEW

In his inauguration speech, the new Executive President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, H.E. Emmerson Mnangagwa, stated that “agriculture is the mainstay of the economy.” He emphasized that agriculture can play a key part in the restoration of economic stability in the country. This was viewed as a positive signal by the agricultural sector, now gearing up for a new cropping season and preparing to scale up livestock production under two new national programmes: Command Livestock and Command Fish.

The final round of livestock association meetings for 2017 is expected to focus on the potential of each livestock sub-sector to contribute to national agricultural output in 2018. The associations are also reviewing the Rapid Results Initiative (RRI), the achievements of this valuable review process, and how many of the recommendations made but not yet implemented, can improve ‘ease of doing business’ and contribute to agricultural performance.

Market Linkages Association Forum

The November MLA Forum focused on working through farmer groups as a basis for enterprise development in rural areas. The first presentation highlighted how working with farmer groups, rather than individual farmers, is a successful business model for enterprise development, enabling farmers to collectively access inputs and services. GIZ, which is working through thousands of small farmers operating in groups, in Manicaland and Masvingo has developed a data base of these farmer groups.

The second session on the theme of working through farmer groups, was from Palladium, who presented a methodology for assessing enterprise readiness of farmer groups. This Group Maturing Index assesses the current status of a group, enabling business partners to determine the current readiness and training needs of the groups they are partnering. This is an important new tool for value chain development and the building of strong inclusive value chains that incorporate small farmers.

Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association

ZFPA proudly announce their workshop and Annual General Meeting.

- Date:** Tuesday 12th December
- Venue:** Andy Millar Hall, Exhibition Park
- Time:** 08.30am – 15.00pm
- Cost:** \$10 per person, inclusive of teas and a hot lunch.

Zimbabwe Poultry Association

ZPA proudly announce their workshop and Annual General Meeting.

- Date:** Wednesday 13th December
- Venue:** Richmond Hall, Exhibition Park
- Time:** 08.30am – 13.00pm
- Cost:** \$10 per person, inclusive of teas and lunch.

Schedule of forthcoming meetings and events: December

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| Thursday 7th | Livestock and Meat Advisory Council Dialogue Forum |
| Tuesday 12th | Workshop and Annual General Meeting of the Zimbabwe Fish Producers' Association |
| Wednesday 13th | Workshop and Annual General Meeting of the Zimbabwe Poultry Association |

Enclosures

- Programme, Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association
- Programme, Zimbabwe Poultry Association

News Articles

- <http://ebusinessweekly.co.zw/zimbabwes-currency-conundrum/>
- <http://ebusinessweekly.co.zw/illuminating-inflation-landscape/>