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ORDINARY MEMBERS: • BRAHMAN • BRANGUS • LIMOUSIN • SANTA GERTRUDIS • SIMMENTALER • SIMBRA • BRAFORD • WAGYU
AFFILIATED MEMBERS • NAMIBIAN STUD BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION • ZIMBABWE HERD BOOK

25.11.2021

Dear LRF member

As we move to the end of November many of the producers and staff that are members of the LRF Societies will be going on their December holidays.

This has been an important year for the LRF and the work done with our members. In January 2020 we restructured and recapitalized the LRF and appointed a permanent CEO. In December 2020 we implemented the genomics module for most Societies and started the training to use the module and pipeline in early 2021. This allows Societies to not only manage its own registrations, performance recording with the resulting genetic evaluation, including selection Indices, it also allows Societies to manage their own genomics programs in-house. Three of the Societies now have the complete pipeline in place. One Society has also shown the significant cost benefit that can be accrued to the advantage of its members.

The HerdMASTER herd management program has also continuously been supported from the LRF office, with several new members joining in the past year.

The operations of the LRF have been restructured in the past year according to its corporate goals, namely, good corporate governance, marketing and promotion, social development, breed improvement and industry participation. Good progress has been made in all these goals.

The LRF also ran fourteen modular courses as requested by various breed Societies. The information is available on the LRF Youtube playlist. It will also be edited into appropriate "sound bites" for members to use when required.

Another highlight was undoubtedly the LRF Stockman School & conference. Our commitment to our members has always been to provide them with the latest breeding and production technologies. To do this requires a good understanding of the value chain, including market requirements. The accolades we received from the peak industry role players was that this was arguably the best Stockman School ever and the topic addressed the issues relevant to major changes being made in the industry today. We also had LRF producer support with 85 producers attending at the Aldam resort, and over 200 online. In addition, great interest was expressed for the first time by the attendance of online participation from various parts of the African continent.

'n Organisasie met regs persoonlikheid - An organization with legal identity.
CHAIRMAN / VOORSITTER: M. Schneider
VICE-CHAIRMAN / VISE-VOORSITTER: J. Styger
HONORARY LIFE CHAIRMAN / ERE-LEWENS VOORSITTERS: L. Angus, W. Hattingh,
C.D.H. Sparks

In March the LRF purchased its own Real Time Ultrasound scanning equipment to measure carcass traits, such as eye-muscle-area, rib- and rump fat as well as intermuscular fat. In May we trained 6 candidates for scanning, and this has continued in the latter half of the year. A protocol for ultrasound scanning has been developed and producers will be given the opportunity to book early next year, so that routes can be planned for 2022.

Our new Professional Development Program (PDP) student will start in December. Pfarelo's salary is paid by DALRRD. She will be responsible for assisting with the administration (agendas, minutes, etc.) and the Genomics pipeline.

On a personal note, I need to report some serious health challenges. Some recurring malignant tumours have been found in the liver and chest area. I will be starting with several courses of Immunotherapy next week. Whilst the prognosis of the treatment is positive the challenges with managing the tumours are not insignificant. We have a strong board led by Mr Mecki Schneider and we will also be strengthening our Corporate governance. I have been requested by the board and the oncologist to limit all travelling to the minimum and scale all my activities down for part of the period undergoing the therapy. Further information will be provided early in 2022 and at the AGM in February 2022. We remind the Societies that the nominations for the LRF board from each Society will also be sought for the AGM.

Regards

Michael

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