



Livestock and Meat Advisory Council

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Livestock Zimbabwe Update: 26th March 2021

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OVERVIEW

The Zimbabwe Poultry Association (ZPA) has tabled a request to the Ministries of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Resettlement and Finance and Economic Development to help the poultry industry bridge supply gaps in day-old chicks through an extension of the suspension of duty on the import of non-SADC hatching eggs for the period April to September 2021. This policy will enable the industry to increase the supply, reduce the cost of day-old chicks and stabilise the supply of chicken and eggs.

The market is still experiencing shortages in day-old chicks and prices have risen by between 15 and 20% in the first two months of 2021. This has been caused by the slow recovery in the breeding stock as well as persistently high demand for chicks, poultry meat and eggs on the market. Demand has remained high due to the shortage and high cost of beef brought about by cattle losses to diseases and the good rains following two years of drought which have prompted cattle farmers to retain their animals for herd recovery and growth.

ZPA also expects demand for day-old chicks to remain high due to the anticipated bumper maize and soyabean harvest as farmers retain these for value addition through poultry production.

Inclusive Poultry Value Chain Project (IPVC)

First and Last Mile Distribution of Eggs and Egg Consumption Promotion

The Project is looking to pilot an initiative to improve the distribution of eggs from the producer to the market by providing three-wheeler battery operated scooters to egg producers. It is envisaged that this initiative will also reduce the transport cost of moving product and inputs to and from the market as well provide a source of income for the farmers.

The Project is working in partnership with Mobility for Africa which will supply the scooters and supporting products and services, including a charging station for the scooter batteries, GPS tracking, data collection on usage and a geo-mapping system.



LIT
Livestock Identification Trust



Quotations for the purchase of scooters for first and last mile egg distribution are currently being processed and visits to Domboshava have been made to identify the producers with the assistance of the AGRITEX area supervisor and to scope out the area of operation as well as scout for premises to use as a consolidation center for the eggs before they are dispatched to market.

These efforts to stimulate demand will be complemented by an ongoing campaign to promote egg consumption by raising awareness and reminding consumers of the goodness of eggs which is not only in taste but in their nutritional benefits too. Continuing for theme of the poster and flyer campaign held in October 2020, the IPVC is working on radio campaigns to spread messages on the vital role played by eggs in healthy diets.

Livestock Diary: April 2021

Tuesday 20th Annual General Meeting of the Pig Producers Association
 Open Meeting for members of the Pig Producers Association of Zimbabwe

Wednesday 28th Meeting of the Stockfeed Manufacturers Association

Enclosures

- Bunny World, February 2021
- Flyer from Agrimed