



Livestock and Meat Advisory Council

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Livestock Zimbabwe Update: 21st May 2021

CC SALES
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Zimbabwe Herd Book

Brahman Breeders Society of Zimbabwe

The Society hosted a field day on Wednesday at Reed Brahmans and Anivai Tulis in Gweru. Held under sunny, warm skies, the event was very well attended and included talks and presentations about performance recording, cow fertility, and important functional qualities to look for when selecting breeding animals. Brahman and Tuli stud cattle were also on display.



Exhibitors set up for the day



Brahman heifers ready for viewing

Dr Mario Beffa spoke about the importance of stud breeding as the “seed stock” of cattle genetics and the need to select the right breed type for the production environment, the influence of the bull in the herd, and the most important traits of fitness and adaptation. Performance recording evaluates an individual animal within the herd as well as the herd itself and is vital in monitoring traits such as disease, heat and parasite resistance.

Dr Bruce made a presentation on selecting the right kind of cow for the business operation and noted that the ideal cow should calve every year and is pregnant again at weaning and also explained that it is possible that the cow may then have 6 calves in five years. Choosing a cow of the right size and frame is very important and Dr Bruce noted that in a fertile herd, 60% of cows should calve within the first three weeks of the calving season.

Philip Reed gave an overview of his operation and discussed the selection criteria for animals that will be auctioned at the forthcoming Gweru-Masvingo Stock Sale to be held on 9th June at Gweru Showgrounds. Practical demonstrations on important functional aspects of both Brahman bulls and heifers were presented by Messrs Odendaal and Briers.



LIT
Livestock Identification Trust



Tuli Cattle Society of Zimbabwe

The Tuli Cattle Society held their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday and Petrus Erasmus was unanimously re-elected as Chairman to serve a second term. In his report to the AGM, he noted that "..... the Society remains at the forefront of the pedigree breeding industry in Zimbabwe and leads the way by being one of the most organised, motivated and progressive societies. Furthermore, the Society leads the way amongst breed societies with regards to EBV breed runs, the use of DNA certification for major sales whilst adding new members each year".

The Society is also involved with the establishment of a regional Tuli Cattle Society of Southern Africa. This initiative is gaining momentum and will bring together breeders from Namibia, Zambia, South Africa and Zimbabwe who share the same objective of development of the Tuli breed.

Tuli bulls will be on auction at the forthcoming National Breed Sale in July and the Society is planning a Tuli Production Sale in September.

Livestock Diary: June 2021

- Wednesday 2nd Meeting of the Stockfeed Manufacturers Association
- Tuesday 8th Open Meeting for members of the Pig Producers Association
- Tuesday 16th Council Meeting of the Zimbabwe Poultry Association
- Friday 25th Open Meeting for members of the Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association