



Livestock & Meat Advisory Council

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LivestockZimbabwe Update: 21st September 2018

OVERVIEW

The enormous scope to grow rural poultry production in Zimbabwe for national economic growth was the focus of the Poultry Indaba hosted by the Zimbabwe Poultry Association held at the Agricultural Research Trust Farm on 19th September.

The Indaba showcased two successful commercial rural poultry production models, a private sector initiative and a community ownership trust investment. A presentation from Zimplats Mhondoro-Ngezi-Chegutu-Zvimba Community Share Ownership Trust illustrated how surrounding rural communities are reaping the benefits of contract broiler and egg farming developed through trust fund investment. Another poultry success story is Sondelani Ranching in Matabeleland which has formed a productive partnership with local farmers, providing a market for their broilers.

Command Poultry, a recent addition to the national Command Agriculture programme also came under the spotlight with interested farmers invited to participate in the Programme.

Completing the day were technical presentations on key areas of poultry management, including a session on management challenges faced by small-scale farmers.

Annual General Meeting of the Zimbabwe Poultry Association

Reporting on a year of challenges to the industry, ZPA Chairman Solomon Zawe, applauded poultry farmers for “performing beyond expectation”, and taking broiler production in Zimbabwe to new heights as the industry rebounds from last year’s outbreak of Avian Influenza (AI). The Chairman’s report to the 48th Annual General Meeting also acknowledged the support rendered by government in waiving 40% duty on hatching eggs to allow the poultry industry to rebuild after AI.

He lamented the increasing cost of doing business, being driven up by an increasing premium on Nostro funds and excessive regulatory charges in animal production, known as costs of compliance. He emphasized that these are impediments to unlocking the full potential of poultry production in Zimbabwe as the poultry industry gears up for inclusive growth to support national economic growth.

Open Meeting of the Zimbabwe Association of Abattoirs

The current national status of Foot and Mouth Disease and its economic impact on the cattle industry dominated discussion at the Open meeting.

Dr Njagu from the Department of Veterinary Services presented an overview of FMD in Zimbabwe, which has spread to areas where the disease has previously not been recorded, including parts of Mashonaland. FMD has occurred in pockets across the country, in a pattern indicating that these outbreaks have been triggered by unauthorised cattle movement.

It is anticipated that the quarantine in Masvingo and other areas where there have been no further outbreaks are likely to be lifted to allow movement for direct slaughter.

Stakeholders recommended the establishment a Foot and Mouth Liaison Group to meet regularly to coordinate the control and management FMD in the collective interests of the livestock industry to minimise economic loss along the cattle value chain and the national economy.

Schedule of forthcoming meetings and events: October

<i>Friday 5th</i>	Council meeting of the Meat Processors Association of Zimbabwe
<i>Wednesday 10th</i>	Open meeting of the Zimbabwe Association of Abattoirs
<i>Friday 12th</i>	World Egg Day
<i>Tuesday and Wednesday 23rd and 24th</i>	Beef School 2018, Bulawayo

Enclosures

- Statutory Instrument 193 of 2018, Collective Bargaining Agreement: Detergents, Edible Oils and Fats Industry
- Statutory Instrument 195 of 2018: Collective Bargaining Agreement: Agricultural Industry
- Application form for Nuffield Scholarship 2019
- Agenda: Fall Armyworm Information Session, Thursday 4th October