



## **Livestock & Meat Advisory Council**

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### **LivestockZimbabwe Update: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018**

#### **OVERVIEW**

ZIMRA has stepped up border surveillance and tracking of animal products in a three-pronged partnership with the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement and Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Enterprise Development to curb illegal meat imports. A veterinary ban on the importation of poultry products from South Africa has been in effect since May 2017, as a veterinary control measure following an outbreak of Avian Influenza in that country.

The tightening of border surveillance and the tracking of imports of animal products is a welcome development. As well as protecting Zimbabwe's self-sufficient meat industry from cheaper, smuggled imports, the interception of unauthorised animal product imports has a role to play in public health and in animal disease control. Some contagious and decimating animal diseases can be spread through infected meat and other animal products, as well as through live animal transmission.

Following new outbreaks of Avian Influenza and African Swine Fever in neighbouring South Africa this month, livestock producers are advised to be on the alert and maintain stringent biosecurity.

Biosecurity, veterinary health and other key aspects of pig husbandry will come under the spotlight at the annual the Pig Symposium 2018 hosted by the Pig Producers Association of Zimbabwe. The one-day event to be held at the Agricultural Research Trust Farm on 27<sup>th</sup> June is geared for large and small producers. It is also expected to attract smallholder pig producers who are aiming to upgrade their operations under the PPAZ/Pig Industry Board mentorship initiative.

#### **Council Meeting of the Zimbabwe Poultry Association**

Massive investment by breeders to rebuild their capacity is already translating into recovery of poultry industry with the largest poultry operation in the country projecting to be back to full production by October. Demand for broiler day old chicks remains firm and the price of chicks has stabilised with the improved availability on the market.

With poultry production in South Africa drastically reduced by recurring outbreaks of Avian Influenza in that country, several countries outside Africa are targeting the SA market. Significant quantities of chicken bearing country of origin stamps from Canada, Europe, North America and Brazil is visible in SA.

**Schedule of forthcoming meetings and events June and July:**

- June 29<sup>th</sup>*** National Boran Breed Sale
- July 4<sup>th</sup>*** Council Meeting of the Stockfeed Manufacturers Association
- July 6<sup>th</sup>*** Council meeting of the Zimbabwe Fish Produces Association
- July 25<sup>th</sup>*** 50<sup>th</sup> National Bull and Heifer Sale, held under the auspices of Zimbabwe Herd Book

**Enclosures**

- Agricultural Marketing Authority Bulletin Number 25